

## THE TIMES Tomorrow

A question of honour  
How West Germany  
remembers the plot  
against Hitler



Macho musts  
Fashion looks at  
men's status symbols  
Yes to Mr Nyet  
The sinister Molotov  
is rehabilitated  
in Moscow  
York's fiery ghost  
In 1829 York Minister  
was burnt by a madman

## Portfolio

There were two winners in the Times Portfolio daily competition on Saturday, each of whom receives £1,000. They are Mr Anthony Stapleton and Wing Commander Eric Stapleton, both of London. There was no winner of the weekly competition, so a dividend of £40,000 can be won this week. Times Portfolio list, page 16; rules and how to play, back page.

## Rivals for state air routes

"Dual designation," which would allow independent carriers to fly on the same routes as the state-owned British Airways, is expected to be introduced in the Civil Aviation Authority's report on the future of Britain's airlines today. That would break British Airways' monopoly on international routes.

## Extradition hint

Spain's Justice Minister said it was important to start talks with Britain on drafting an extradition treaty.

## Credit review

The course of American interest rates will be determined by the Federal Reserve Board, meeting today and tomorrow to review credit conditions.

## Cram victory

Steve Cram, last in a race at Crystal Palace on Friday, returned to form with a 1,500 metres victory at Birmingham yesterday.



## Food aid fears

Indiscriminate food aid to Third World countries can be damaging and is an inefficient way to reduce EEC food surpluses.

## Garage licences

The Director General of Fair Trading, who has pressed for changes in the car trade to benefit customers, is studying the idea of licensing garages.

## Settlement drive

The Israeli Government has stepped up its settlement drive in the occupied territories. Four new West Bank outposts have been approved.

Leader page 13  
Letters: On A-level education from Professor M Burnyeat and others; GLC elections from Mr R Mitchell; on BL fines from Mr M Welsh, MEP.  
Leading articles: State of emergency; New Zealand elections. Features, pages 10, 11, 12 Can Mrs Thatcher ride the interest rate? The Democrats fragile unity: Who would want Jenkin's job? Spectrum: tap dancing through 42nd Street. Monday: Paper women architects build up their status. Obituary, page 14 Miss Gwynne Whitby, Padma Shri J. A. K. Martyn. Classified, pages 23 to 26 La crème de la crème: educational appointments.

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# Thatcher prepared for emergency powers in docks

● Ministers will consider today the possibility of declaring a state of emergency to deal with the docks strike  
● The Transport Secretary said that the Government was prepared to use emergency powers to move essential goods

● In the dispute, intervention by Acas led to hopes of an early end to the ports blockade  
● The miners' strike, however, seems likely to run on after militant speeches by NUM leaders at the weekend

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

The Government is prepared if necessary to use emergency powers to move essential supplies through the docks, Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, said yesterday. He added that ministers were "determined to keep the life of the nation going".

But he indicated that emergency action was not yet imminent. Preliminary consideration will be given today to the possible need for a proclamation of a state of emergency, when the committee of ministers who have been meeting regularly to monitor the miners' dispute and more recently the dock strike, assemble again under the Prime Minister's chairmanship.

On Saturday, when the attitude of the dockers' leaders was seen to be hardening, Mrs Margaret Thatcher made a carefully worded statement in her Finchley constituency, saying that the Government would do everything necessary to keep the country working.

"In doing so we shall have the strong and resolute support of the British public. The country will not be held to ransom by a tiny minority," she said.

The Prime Minister's words implied clearly that the Government judged the dispute in the docks to be aimed not at genuine industrial ends but, in

conjunction with the miners' leaders, at the Government's authority.

Mr Ridley, interviewed on BBC radio, put the belief into words.

He said that the cause of the strike, over the use of unregistered labour at Immingham, Humberside, had been solved. The Government had no plans

to alter or abolish the Dock Labour Scheme, and had said so, so that could not possibly be a reason for a strike.

"There must be some other reason for the dock unions keeping their men out at present," Mr Ridley said, adding that his information was that "a large number of dockers do not want to go on strike for the sake of Arthur Scargill and the miners' dispute".

Mr Ridley's words brought an accusation from Mr John Prescott, Opposition transport spokesman, that he was "taking up the dispute" by "shaping up the troops to take over from the riot police".

He said that the minister could resolve the dispute by making clear that he no longer encouraged employers to be

lieve they could get rid of the Dock Labour Scheme, and by accepting a form of words put forward by the unions which would reassure dock workers.

It was emphasized in Whitehall yesterday that the Government would be able to employ troops in various ways without taking emergency powers. Only if the strike in the docks persists into next week will there be a serious question of a proclamation.

After a further weekend of sub-munious sounds from Conservative backbenchers, Mr John Biffen, leader of the Commons, yesterday invited the Prime Minister's critics in the party to test their strength by running a rival candidate for the leadership this autumn.

"All these mutterers have to do is simply to draft some candidate, who is a person of straw, designed to indicate how many votes can be cast for someone other than the Prime Minister. I bet we won't have a whisper or a peep from them," Mr Biffen said on BBC radio.

His antennae are more sensitive than some, and none of Mrs Thatcher's more persistent critics in the Commons appears to have yet reached the point of canvassing the names of "potential challengers".

## Coal board dismay on talks

By Our Labour Editor

The miners' strike looks set to run for another six weeks as peace talks resume between pitmen's leaders and the National Coal Board.

The board's senior managers, who are to meet national officials of the National Union of Mineworkers on Wednesday, have been dismayed at the militant tone of their weekend speeches that have again diminished hopes of an early settlement.

Union leaders privately believe that they are still at the "talks about talks about talks" stage. It seems unlikely that the delegate conference which met in Sheffield last week will be recalled to give a verdict on the negotiations before the end of August.

Mr Arthur Scargill, the miners' president told the Durham miners' gala on Saturday: "There has to be no fudge compromise. We have to win this dispute if we believe in

what we have been fighting for."

The union's general secretary, Mr Peter Heathfield, promised the 10,000 pit demonstrators: "We will, at the end of the day, inflict on Mrs Thatcher the kind of defeat we imposed on Ted Heath in 1972 and 1974".

Their remarks triggered fresh despondency at the coal board, where managers were hoping to pick up the threads of the four-day round of talks which were adjourned without a settlement but which kept alive the peace process.

Mr Ned Smith, the board's director of industrial relations, told *The Times*: "We have put proposals to the union that we regard as reasonable, and which I think would be regarded by a majority of people in the industry as reasonable. I sincerely hope that the talks will be meaningful."

The two principal points at

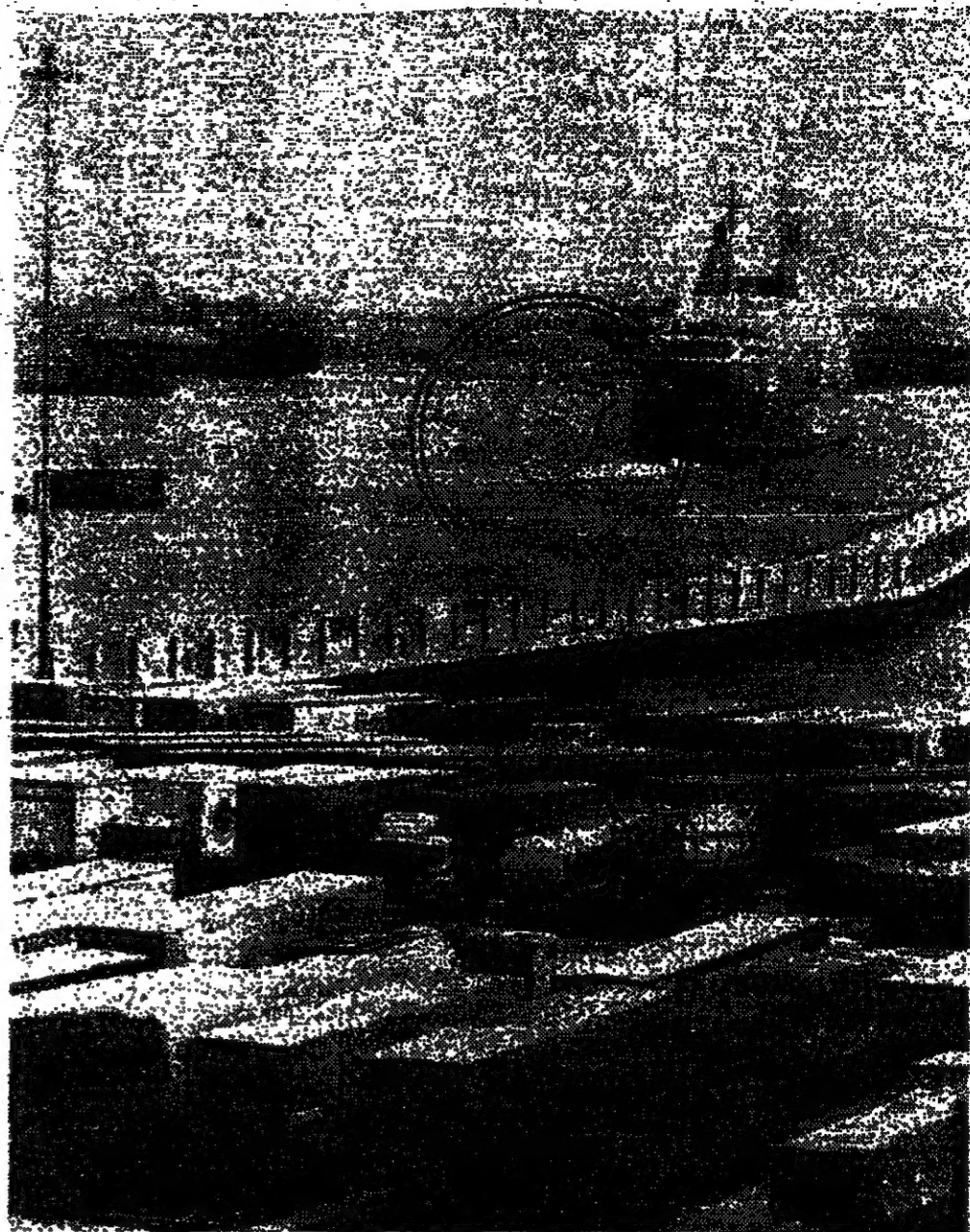
issue between the union and the board are the union's insistence that the pit closure programme announced on March 6 must be withdrawn unconditionally, and that collieries must not be closed on economic grounds.

Mr Scargill reaffirmed at the gala the union's insistence that threatened pits must be kept open by new investment, and that there must be a new construction on the meaning of "exhausted pits": the miners would not talk about economic closures.

However, the board has not moved from its stand that there must be grounds other than safety or complete seam exhaustion. Mr Ian MacGregor, the chairman, will make a further attempt to persuade the union to accept that mines where there are no further reserves that can

be worked must be closed.

Continued on back page, col 4



Lorries wait on the quay as a ferry leaves Dover eastern docks yesterday.

## Peace moves raise hopes of end to ports blockade

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

New peace moves in the dock strike raised hopes last night that the blockade of Britain's major ports could soon be lifted.

The Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) has invited leaders of the Transport and General Workers' Union and the National Association of Port Employers to separate "exploratory talks" as - its London headquarters.

Both sides expected to accept the invitation, but the Government-appointed peacemakers believe that there could be some grudging negotiations ahead before a formula to end the week-old stoppage is put together.

Today, TGWU shop stewards will seek to spread the strike to the port of Dover, where holidaymakers were yesterday engaged in a race against the clock to get across the Channel before a possible worsening of the action involving Sealink passenger ferries.

Meanwhile, Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, is seeking to link the dock strike with the miners' strike, which

today enters its 19th week. On the eve of talks with the TGWU and other members of trade union national co-ordinating committee, which pulls together backing for the pitmen, he declared "unanimous" NUM backing for the dockers.

"I believe it is imperative that both these unions understand that both our fights are interconnected and interlinked, fighting the same kind of government policy. That's what we all should understand as we go towards the ultimate victory," he told a strikers' rally yesterday at Shirebrook on the Derbyshire-Nottinghamshire border.

Mr Ron Todd, general secretary-elect of the TGWU, confirmed last night that the two disputes, though from different origins, are "inextricably linked". He said: "The dock strike started from our support of the NUM, when the port employers abrogated the National Dock Labour Scheme at Immingham."

The National Union of Seamen has also intensified the action by "blacking" freight lorries from Sealink ferries in protest at government plans to

privatize the state-owned shipping line.

The NUS, which is part of the "national" co-ordinating committee, backing the miners, halted much of the movement of coal by sea. "All around Britain we've got coal ships stopped - there's been one stopped at the 19th week at French port," Mr Scargill said yesterday. "It can't move and the lorry on that ship say it will not move even if this strike goes on for five years."

A last-minute deal could keep the holiday ferries bowing in and out of Dover today (the Press Association reports).

It became clear last night that union leaders would be satisfied with a ban on the movement of all freight at Dover. In all other ports holiday travellers have been granted dispensation from the stoppage.

Dover dockers were due to hold a mass meeting early this morning to consider the union recommendation. More than 30,000 passengers and 7,000 cars are due to use the port today at the start of the peak school holiday period.

## Security head 'was a Soviet agent'

By Peter Hennessy

The accuracy of Mrs Thatcher's Commons statement which cleared the late Sir Roger Hollis, former director-general of the security service, of allegations that he had spied for Russia, will be challenged tonight.

The top M15 officer, who led the Hollis inquiry and spent 15 years investigating high-level Soviet penetration in Britain, claims that "intelligence-wise it was 99 per cent certain that he (Sir Roger) was a spy".

Granada Television *World in Action* has reopened the Hollis affair by producing new evidence which suggests that the Russian Intelligence Service had successfully run a "double" at the summit of the security service into the 1960s. It is certain to spark renewed questioning in Parliament and could severely embarrass the Government.

Mr Peter Wright, who retired from M15 in 1976, allowed himself to be cross-examined publicly for the first time about the conclusions of the joint M15-M16 "Fluency" working party into KGB penetration of M15 which sat from 1965 to 1969 under his chairmanship.

He says the Fluency investigation and two additional inquiries concluded that Sir Roger was the likeliest candidate to be the "mole".

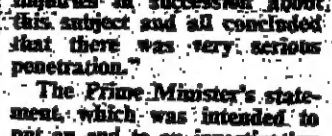
In his statement to the Commons in March, 1981, Mrs Thatcher said: "The case for investigating Sir Roger Hollis was based on certain leads that suggested but did not prove that there had been a Russian Intelligence Service agent at a relatively senior level in British counter intelligence in the last years of the war."

Mrs Thatcher's remarks cited a fourth review of the case by Lord Trenchard, the former Cabinet Secretary, which cleared Sir Roger in the absence of conclusive evidence.

Mr Wright says tonight: "This is a masterly piece of Whitehall deception, because there were three independent inquiries in succession about this subject and all concluded that there was very serious penetration."

The Prime Minister's statement, which was intended to get an end to an investigation which began in the 1940s, was couched in equivocal language, Mr Wright says, because "She

Continued on back page, col 3



Sir Roger Hollis (left) and Mr Peter Wright.

## Blunder by Mondale as party meets

From Nicholas Ashford, San Francisco

Just when he was beginning to project himself as a tough, decisive leader who had taken charge of a United Democratic Party, Mr Walter Mondale has become embroiled in a new controversy which is entirely of his own making.

It was caused by his attempt to dismiss Mr Charles Manatt as chairman of the Democratic National Committee and replace him with Mr Bert Lance, a prominent Southern Democrat who achieved notoriety during the Carter administration when he was forced to resign as Budget Director after an investigation of his personal finances.

Senator Gary Hart, who still intends to make a long-shot bid for the presidential nomination, immediately seized on the affair to promote his own candidacy. He said it was presumptuous of Mr Mondale to dismiss Mr Manatt before he had won the nomination.

The planned coup produced such sharp reaction from Democratic leaders that Mr Mondale has, instead, appointed Mr Lance "general chairman" of his campaign. It is still expected that Mr Manatt will step down after this week's convention, but he will be offered a new position in an expanded campaign structure being set up to consolidate party resources.

Mr Mondale's decision to promote Mr Lance was mainly intended to placate Democrats in the South, where there has been adverse reaction to his decision to nominate a woman, Mrs Geraldine Ferraro - who is a Northerner - as his running mate. The South is considered one of the key battlegrounds of the election.

Continued on back page, col 1

## £114m 'star wars' devices to guard athletes

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles

As thousands of athletes from around the world this weekend settle into their Olympic village homes, a huge army of police and guards - outnumbering competitors by more than two to one - is moving into place.

Mr Edgar Best, security chief of the Los Angeles Olympics, calls keeping the peace "the law enforcement challenge of the century". The job is to protect athletes, diplomats and VIPs during the Olympic fortnight, which officially begins on July 28.

Some 18,000 Los Angeles police and private guards will patrol the competition sites and the three Olympic villages, one in central Los Angeles at the University of Southern California, one at the University of California, Los Angeles campus, and a third smaller village some 100 miles from Los Angeles at the University of California in Santa Barbara.

The villages are surrounded by three eight-foot-high fences, the middle fence wired to a sensitive alarm system. Officials have hung pastel-coloured sheets over the cold steel of the inside fence to soften the harshness.

Behind the scenes is a formidable array of security devices, the like of which is said to have never been assembled before. It is a display of "Star Wars" type of gadgetry that the *Los Angeles Times* estimated will cost in the region of \$150m (£114m).

The hub of the entire operation is the anti-terrorist operations centre, headquarters for a task force comprised of the FBI, the Los Angeles Police and Los Angeles Sheriff's Departments, plus counter-terrorist experts from other police agencies.

For many months counter-terrorist experts have made phone surveys of virtually every square foot of competition sites and villages. Special FBI squads have carried out exercises using countless terrorist scenarios.

"All you have to do is look at



The Olympic Stadium, already under guard.

Information from the CIA, the National Security Agency and other US spy operations around the world will be piped into this secret headquarters in the centre of the city. Dozens of other police command centres have also been set up with immediate links to the "mission control" HQ.

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"All you have to do is look at

the headlines and figure out which teams have the biggest risk," says Mr Paul Myron, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department Olympic planner. "The Turks and Israelis."

Fifteen of the 140 teams taking part will receive special security. The US athletes will not be overlooked.

"How better can some terrorist embrace the United States than by an attack on an American Athlete," says Los Angeles Sheriff Sherman Block.

Security officials have erected 42 miles of fencing around the villages and most of the athletic venues. The Pentagon has spent \$50m on security, including a \$12m radio system, scrambled to prevent eavesdropping, to link the more than 50 southern California police agencies involved in Games security.

The Olympic village alarm system cost \$10m to install and more than 70 helicopters, boosted by scores of other planes, will be used for aerial observation, evacuation purposes or to bring in the FBI hostage rescue and SWAT (emergency response) teams if need be.

A squad of 14 bomb-sniffing dogs will be sent, along with 70 bomb disposal experts aided by the British-tested Felix robot, a machine that can defuse a bomb or shoot it faster than it can explode.

FBI official Mr Richard Bretzing says that more than 40 international terrorist groups are being monitored by the anti-terrorist headquarters and a study has identified 105 international conflicts that may have a bearing on the Olympics.

But he adds optimistically: "If we're lucky the public will never be aware of the activity of the anti-terrorist operations centre."

## Shultz met by new NZ leader

From W. P. Reeves, Wellington

New Zealand's Prime Minister-elect, Mr David Lange, leader of the Labour Party which won the election on Saturday, made a special flight last night from Auckland to greet Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State at rainswept Wellington airport.

Mr Shultz was arriving to attend the ministerial council of Anzus, the defence alliance embracing the United States, New Zealand and Australia which opens in Wellington today.

The two shook hands and had a brief exchange. Mr Lange is understood to have desired to show the incoming Government's regard for the continuation of close relations with the United States, in spite of its intention to ban visits by all nuclear-armed or propelled warships.

Because of a constitutional interregnum while the writs of the election are being returned, the new Government does not take over for about a fortnight.

The chairman of the Anzus meeting will therefore be Mr Warren Cooper, the Foreign Minister of the defeated Moldoon administration who campaigned strongly against Labour's nuclear ships policy during the election campaign, arguing that it would imperil the Anzus treaty.

Mr Lange denies this, and while his meeting with Mr Shultz was probably too short for the subject to have been raised last night, it no doubt will be raised at a meeting the two have arranged for tomorrow.

Third parties help Lange, Leading article, page 13







# Statutory licensing of garages planned to beat slipshod servicing

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Sir Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading, who has been pressing for changes in the car trade to benefit consumers, is studying a North American answer: comprehensive licensing of garages.

In the United States and Canada those systems of control on the car trade do not appear to be particularly expensive to operate and also seem to produce beneficial results, Sir Gordon said last night. He was speaking at a summer school organized in Cambridge by the Institute of the Motor Industry.

In spite of the American findings by Sir Gordon and an Office of Fair Trading team, Sir Gordon said that he still had an open mind on whether there should be statutory licensing in Britain to protect consumers from slipshod car servicing and repairs.

The car trade in Britain has argued for more time to allow

voluntary arrangements such as codes of practice to make their impact. Sir Gordon has acknowledged there could be difficulties in introducing a United Kingdom licensing system.

But the North American findings could play a role in any decision whether to press the Government for statutory licensing. Sir Gordon also described as a valuable experiment the introduction of licensing for car dealers by about 25 local authorities in Scotland. The Scottish results will be monitored by his office, Sir Gordon said.

He added: "I would like to see the stage reached when the motoring public can deal with members of the established industry organizations in total confidence that it is going to get a fair deal."

Difficulties still persist, Sir

Gordon said, there are complaints to his office of inadequate pre-delivery checks on new cars and failure to remedy defects quickly under warranty. In the past 12 months there have been a number of instances of odometers being disconnected to disguise delivery mileage, he said.

Sir Gordon has been pressing the Government to legislate so that used cars have a written report on their conditions displayed as a pre-sale checklist. Such a measure is likely to be implemented soon at federal level in the United States, he said.

Calling for better standards in car servicing, Sir Gordon questioned whether car makers should make their service schedules available not only to their franchised dealers but also to the trade and possibly even to car owners.



Laughing matter: Members of King's College Choir School, Cambridge, who will be presenting a new musical play, *The Laughing Cavalier*, at the University Music School next week (Photograph: John Manning).

## Police join forces in hunt for 'the Fox'

By Stewart Tindler  
Crime Reporter

Several hundred police officers, including marksmen, continued to search through the villages of three counties north of London yesterday for the armed rapist and burglar nicknamed "the Fox".

The net cast for the man, thought to be in his mid-twenties, is now believed by the police to include the Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire border and a section of Hertfordshire. At the weekend, Hertfordshire police joined a cross-border operation which already included police from Bedfordshire and the Thames Valley.

Yesterday detectives and forensic scientists were still checking details of an attempted burglary on a farmhouse near the village of Eddlesborough, where a teenage brother and sister and the girl's boyfriend were sexually assaulted in burglaries last Friday. The attempted burglary took place the next night, but police were not sure that the rapist was responsible.

The police headquarters at Dunstable reported a large volume of alarm calls from people throughout the weekend.

Worried householders kept police busy checking reports of prowlers and strange noises in the night. A police spokesman said that public anxiety had been spread to areas well beyond the known hunting ground of the burglar, who began operations about four months ago, mainly in the Leighton Buzzard area.

At first he is thought to have restricted himself to burglaries, but in the past eight weeks, the robberies have sometimes included assaults. The girl on Friday was raped twice and a few days earlier, the man had been about to attack another woman during a burglary when he was disturbed as she started screaming.

## Low-strength whisky sales up

By Our Commercial Editor

The sales of low-price, under-strength whisky brands are increasing, while attempts continue to change the law on their minimum alcohol content.

If the legal problems can be overcome, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is expected to outlaw the under-strength whiskies, a move called for by the Scotch Whisky Association, which wants adherence to the traditional benchmark on scotch alcohol content of 40 per cent.

But sales of the under-strength whiskies, often in 33.3 centilitre bottles instead of the normal 75 centilitres, are believed to have doubled since 1980, giving them about 6 per cent of the market.

In the Co-op, Britain's biggest off-licence chain through the

many retail societies, the Co-op House, a typical under-strength brand, is now the best-selling whisky in the society's 2,500 outlets.

Less than a year after being launched it accounts for nearly a third of all Co-op whisky sales. Its nearest rival is Bell's, which has a fifth of the market share.

There are about ten brands of under-strength whiskies, whose producers describe them as "light whiskies".

Such whiskies, which contain more water, have a volume alcohol content of between 37.2 and 37.5 per cent.

All but 5 per cent of the under-strength whisky sales are accounted for by Arden House, Highland Prince (produced by

Edward Butler Vintners), High Commissioner (available mostly in Scotland from Glen Catrine) and Highland Mist (made by William Muir).

With most whisky sales in the doldrums the "light" blends are the only real growth area, according to Mr Martin Bryant, general manager of the Co-operative Wholesale Society's food manufacturing group. "Why attempt to kill them off?" he said.

"Light whiskies are made from the same whisky as blends with a 40 per cent alcohol content. The only difference is that the strength is slightly lower and they are more competitively priced, selling at about £5.99 a bottle against £7.49 for standard scotch," Mr Bryant said.

## Private film funding to replace cinema tax

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

This Wednesday the Government will publish its plans to alter the financing of the British film industry by replacing the tax currently levied on cinema seats with funding from the private sector.

A new organization will replace the National Film Finance Corporation, which has been financed since its inception in 1949 by a box office levy known as the Eady levy. It will be funded by film distributors and exhibitors, headed by Thora-Emi and Rank. Because of diminishing cinema audiences the Eady levy raises only about £5m each year.

The cinema levy, a complicated formula which averages about 10 to 12 per cent of box office takings, has also helped to fund the National Film School, where young directors are trained and encouraged. The school would also have to be given alternative sources of finance.

The film industry has been pressing for a levy on blank video tapes to compensate for millions of pounds of revenue which it claims are lost each year through pirated video film. The Government is not keen on that as a solution, and is unlikely to endorse it.

## Fear of fires as straw burning season begins

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

Despite some rain in the last few days, most of Britain is still exceptionally dry, creating an added risk of accidental fires as the straw burning season gets under way.

Friends of the Earth referred yesterday to a forecast in *The Times* last month of a bumper harvest, which would mean yet more straw to be burnt.

The group has called for a ban on burning from autumn

Home Office, on the advice of the National Farmers' Union, but most local authorities have yet to adopt them.

The union has urged its members to observe a strict code of practice, which bans burning at weekends, on Bank Holidays or after dark. Fires should not be lit in strong winds, or near roads, buildings or power lines, should be supervised by two experienced people.

However, it is open to doubt whether the police or the fire brigades have the resources to see that the rules are obeyed.

## Campaign to outlaw theft of computer programs

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Government backing is expected for legislation against piracy of computer programs, which, according to the industry, costs an estimated £150m a year and is threatening jobs.

A parliamentary campaign to make theft of software a criminal offence with swingeing penalties opens on July 24 with a ten-minute rule Bill introduced by Mr Nicholas Lyell, QC, Conservative MP for Bedfordshire.

Mr Lyell hopes to talk to Mr Baker's department about detail to be included in his Bill, which would also provide for search warrants in relation to infringement.

There is strong backing for reform among Conservative MPs and the computer industry. A sub-committee of the Society of Conservative Lawyers blames successive governments for failing to give the industry the copyright protection it needs.

The Federation Against Software Theft, funded by computer companies, says that annual software theft is equal at least to the combined turnover in Britain of seven of the biggest firms.

or distribution articles known to infringe copyright. There are lesser penalties for selling, possessing, or exhibiting such material.

By itself the Bill will have no chance of changing the law, but it is intended to prepare the ground for legislation via either a private member's Bill or the House of Lords, with government backing likely.

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## Woolworth test Sunday trading law

Woolworth opened its store in Kensington, west London, yesterday for the second successive Sunday, in the belief that it is not in breach of the Act which forbids such trading (Bill Johnstone writes).

A spokesman for Woolworth said: "We feel it is within the spirit of the law. We view this very much as a holiday store."

The company already opens its stores in holiday resorts on Sundays. It claims that many other shops in Kensington are open on Sundays and cater mainly to tourist traffic.

A spokesman for Kensington and Chelsea Council said that the store had not received permission to open on a Sunday.

Scotland has a liberal attitude to Sunday trading and the Government is reviewing the law as it relates to England.

## BR tea to cost more

The price of a cup of tea or coffee on trains goes up by 2p today. A sandwich will cost 4p more, and 40p will be added to the bill for a set meal. Travellers' Fare, British Rail's catering subsidiary announced yesterday.

But there was good news for older male passengers. British Rail is considering lowering the age limit for men to qualify for a senior citizen's railcard from 65 to 60. The card costs £12 a year and gives half price travel on most journeys.

## Heart machines 'useless'

Heart-rate machines installed at chemists to take one's pulse were "useless", Professor Jack Shillingford, consultant medical director of the British Heart Foundation, said yesterday.

Victims of heart disease often have normal pulse readings, he said. A normal reading could mislead people into thinking they had no need to visit their doctor, possibly with serious results.

## Prestel starts school service

Prestel, the videotex service of British Telecom, is to launch a new service in January aimed at Britain's 7,500 secondary schools and local education authority teachers and advisory centres. Schools will be able to receive computer programs down the telephone line, get advice on how to develop information technology skills and a guide to courses at universities, polytechnics and institutes of higher education.

## BBC granted Forces contract

BBC Enterprises has won the contract, worth a six-figure sum, to provide up to 70 hours a week of television programming to the British Armed Forces and their families stationed in West Germany.

The two-year contract, currently held by London Weekend Television, starts next April.

SELF-EMPLOYED? NO PENSION WITH YOUR JOB? KEEP THIS PAGE.

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- 3. Your contributions go into a special Sun Alliance fund which is free of most UK taxes, which means your investment can grow much faster.
- 4. Should you die before retirement, all your contributions would be returned free of income tax and capital gains tax.

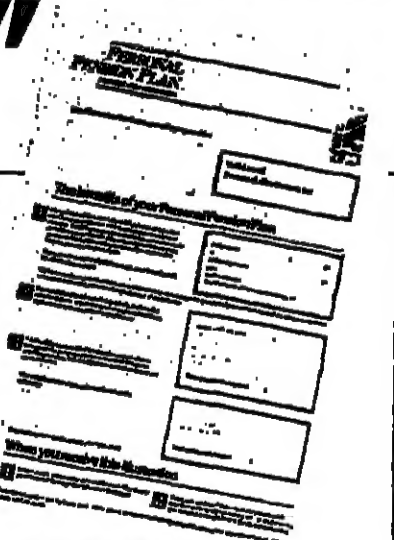
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Horsham  
(0403) 59009

## Cash plea by Dickens museum

By John Witherow

An appeal for £6,500 towards the cost of cataloguing a collection of 8,000 slides and photographs at the Dickens House Museum in Doughty Street, central London has been launched by the privately funded museum.

The museum is in the house where Charles Dickens worked on *Bleak House*, *Oliver Twist* and *Nicholas Nickleby* between 1837 and 1839.

Part of the difficulty for researchers is dating the photographs. An unusual picture of Dickens without a beard or moustache is thought to have been taken in 1852 when he had already been for some considerable time the most famous author in England.

But Dr David Parker, the curator, believes there is "confusion and dispute" over such dates. The only answer is to work carefully through Dickens' diaries, letters and memoirs to try to pinpoint the year.

The museum is prepared even to check records of the better known photographic studios to see if they mention sittings for Dickens. The clothes Dickens was wearing for the photograph were considered "stylish and dandified", Dr Parker says. When Dickens made his lecture tours of the United States, where he delivered graphic readings of his novels, he was thought rather vulgar by conventional American society.

A "spy" sketch shows Dickens at the time of his death in 1870, when he was aged 58.

Dickens in about 1852 (top), a sketch by Andre Gill and Leslie Ward's "spy" drawing.





## Student achievement: 1

## New ways to polish up the end-of-term report

The Government will tomorrow publish its final policy on the introduction of schoolchildren's records of achievement. COLIN HUGHES, in the first of a two-part series, explains a step which some educationists believe will transform the comprehensive classroom.

Dr Alan Wilmott, senior researcher at the Oxford Delegation of Local Examinations, presents what he admits is a "starry-eyed scenario" of the comprehensive school in 20 years time.

Pupils will be better motivated, no longer driving hard down a narrow track towards the buffer of examinations; teachers of different subjects will talk to each other about their common pupils; standards will rise with motivation; pupils will become more active in and out of school; and employers will at last be aware of what their job candidates have spent their secondary years learning.

If this revolution is to be achieved the prime catalyst will be an innovation known in typically obscure educational jargon, as student records of achievement.

Now, while the idea has barely left the research launching pad, enthusiasm within the teaching profession is infectious. As yet, however, parents have not begun to understand or even be aware of a change which could radically transform their children's lives at school and beyond.

Most pupils leaving school at 16 this week will take with them nothing more than a collection of examination certificates as evidence of the past five years. One in seven will not have even a "testimonial" from the headmaster, a kind of character

reference for employers, but it will probably be ill-informed and vague.

A few thousand, whose schools have been running primitive experiments, will carry a "pupil profile". That is where the idea begins.

Profiling, as it exists now, usually comprises a self-assessment by the pupil, general comments by form tutors and subject teachers about character and ability, and sometimes a grid, in which basic skills and abilities are marked from satisfactory to good.

Mr James Craig, head teacher at Acland Burghley school in north London, has been running a profile scheme for several years, and now has pupils from their first year filling in slips which describe all their activities from gardening to acting in the BBC series *Grange Hill*.

Teachers become more aware of their pupils' abilities during discussions of the profile often with parents present. Already, motivation is boosted; more able children lose their contentment for the less able who can't succeed in non-academic pursuits.

At the end of their fifth year, leavers will see their profiles drawn together into a complete character pack, with examination results added, to present to a future employer who wants a fuller account of the prospective employee.

Schemes being developed by the Oxford Delegation, the

Northern Examining Association and the Inner London Education Authority, turn this simple tool to encourage children and set them regular goals into a sophisticated system which some educationists believe will eventually relegate examinations to mere confirmation of ability.

The extra ingredient is graded assessment, or credit accumulation: once more, the jargon renders education impenetrable to its users and consumers. Many schools are already experimenting with graded assessment in modern languages.

Each time a pupil is deemed able to carry a certain task, such as give simple directions in French, he or she gets a small certificate from the teacher to prove it.

The Northern Examining Association will tomorrow announce that it intends to begin work on a whole range of possible elements to be included in the final record, including credit accumulation. Some schools, including Portsmouth Boys' School, are already going ahead with the innovation next year.

The diversity of ideas on how records of achievement should contain is already bewildering. So when the Government publishes its final policy tomorrow it can only be hoped that the educationists' excitement will be marshalled.

For, as the Schools Council commented three years ago: "If considered innovation in this area could burden teachers with impossible judgments, pupils with unmanageable qualifications, and users with unmanageable information, tomorrow: Where will it lead?"



Paris parade: President Mitterrand reviewing troops on the Champs Elysée during Saturday's Bastille Day ceremony.

## Tugendhat attacks EEC veto

From Our Own Correspondent, Brussels

The EEC must no longer allow a minority view among member states to block its progress, Mr Christopher Tugendhat, the Conservative British Commissioner, said this weekend.

Delivering the Swinton Lecture at St John's College, Cambridge, to an audience of leading members of his party on Saturday evening, the Budget Commissioner called for what amounted to an end to the right of veto on EEC decisions.

He outlined a radical new way for the Community to work out its policies, arguing that it should become normal: for programmes to be carried out without all member states taking part.

It was an idea, he said, already being discussed in a number of EEC capitals.

Mr Tugendhat, who retires from the Commission at the end of this year, called for a Europe of concentric circles, with the Community at the centre and other policies and forms of cooperation radiating out from it.

"If the spirit of Europe is to be maintained, an effort should always be made to include all member states in everything," he said. "But if, for one reason or another, a member state does not wish to go ahead, that should not become a reason for doing nothing. Those who believe it right to proceed should be able to do so."

He cited EEC sanctions against Argentina during the Falklands war as an example of how the Community was already showing flexibility. The Irish Republic and Italy had been unable to agree on maintaining sanctions, "but it was far better that eight should have acted in concert."

Mr Tugendhat believed that this precedent might have to be carried a good deal further if EEC members, who were also in Nato, added a security dimension to their foreign policy cooperation.

Britain should not opt for minimalist participation in such a system. "It will be those countries which participate in everything who will wield the greatest influence and determine the form and direction of Europe's future," he said.

## Polish poll goes quietly

Warsaw (Reuters) - A second round of voting, Poland's first local government elections since the Solidarity upheaval, was held yesterday.

The poll, to elect almost 800 councillors chosen by the authorities, was surrounded by none of the propaganda generated by both sides before the first round. Solidarity did not repeat its boycott appeal.

Voting was restricted to 85 districts where the turnout was less than 50 per cent in the first round on June 17, when clandestine leaders of the banned free trade union called for a boycott. The Government said 75 per cent of the 26 million voters took part in the first round and described the result as a serious defeat for the opposition.

Solidarity claimed its own checks on the vote showed a boycott of up to 40 per cent, equal to the 10 million members of the union before it was suppressed under martial law.

## Malaysia reshuffles Cabinet

From M. C. G. Pillai, Kuala Lumpur

Malaysian Cabinet reshuffles are rarely dramatic. The emphasis is on continuity and a reluctance to hurt feelings, enabling even the most ineffectual ministers to serve out the six years needed to qualify for the maximum state pension.

So, when Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, the Prime Minister, dropped three ministers and two deputy ministers, and created a new portfolio for justice, he was, by local standards, innovative.

The changes left Tan Sri Razaleigh Hamzah, the Finance Minister and bitter political rival of Datuk Musa Hitam, the Deputy Prime Minister, out of the power structure as he now holds no party positions. But he remains in the Cabinet as the Trade and Industry Minister.

The new Finance Minister is

Tan Sri Ahmad Rithandeen, Welfare Services; Datuk Abu Hassan Omar, Trade and Industry; Tan Sri Razaleigh Hamzah, Finance; Mr Daim Zaiduddin.

Transport: Tan Sri Chong Hoon Ng; Primary Industries: Datuk Paul Leong Khe Seong; Agriculture: Mr Amman Ibrahim; Public Enterprises: Datuk Rafidah Aziz; Land and Regional Development: Datuk Adib Adam; National and Rural Development: Datuk Saunzi Jundi; Labour: Datuk Mak Hoo Kam; Information: Datuk Rais Yatim; Science, Technology and Environment: Datuk Stephen Yong; Health: Datuk Chin Hoo Ngiam; Federal Territory: Datuk Shahar Abdul Samad; Culture, Youth and Sports: Datuk Sulaiman Daud.

The Cabinet Prime Minister, Defence: Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, Deputy Prime Minister, Home Affairs: Datuk Musa Hitam; Justice: Datuk James Ongkili; Without Portfolio: Datuk Khalil Yaseh; Housing and Local Government: Datuk Neo Yee Pan; Public Works: Datuk S. Samy Veloo; Foreign Affairs:

## Europe and a hungry world: 1

## From food mountains to aid molehills

In the course of the past decade the EEC has found that indiscriminate food aid can have a damaging effect. On the one hand, any supply of cheap food which is in direct competition with locally grown production drives down prices and forces farmers off the land and into the overcrowded cities.

On the other hand a supply of goods which cannot be grown locally creates consumer needs which can only ever be met by imports. This in turn increases the country's debt and makes it permanently dependent on foreign aid.

The Community's annual court of auditors' report gives frequent proof of the inequity and inefficiency of providing food aid as food. Every year it throws up chilling examples of incompetence and even downright dishonesty which make it clear that with the best will in the world it is very difficult to get Community aid into the right hands.

On top of that the Community's surplus tend to be of the wrong kind. Better is nearly useless. Skimmed milk powder

The United Nations has just estimated that the world population will more than double over the next century, even though malnutrition has reached epidemic proportions and millions of children are starving to death every year. In the first of two articles from Brussels, Tim Murray reports on the difficulties of trying to help by using the infamous EEC food mountains.

is not much better, relying heavily on the availability of clean water for mixing. Wine is inappropriate. Olive oil has few takers. Only cereals are universally acceptable and they are among the products most likely to undermine local agriculture.

Cereals also present real problems on the international market. If they are sold at knock-down prices they risk charges of trade war from the United States. If they are sold at higher prices they add to the debt problem of the poor countries. If they are given away they cost the European taxpayer much more money than he is prepared to pay - and still they do not solve the hunger problem.

It is for all these reasons that the Community is now ready to change its food strategy from

one of supplementing stocks to one of increasing food self-sufficiency. This follows the modest success of a two-year experimental scheme in Mali, Kenya, Rwanda and Zambia, which has shown that this is the only really successful long-term solution.

The idea is that where appropriate the Community will provide the expertise to create or recreate farming in areas which cannot produce the food the population needs. This is meant to form the basis of one of the key parts of the new Lomé Convention, now under negotiation.

It is also an extremely delicate subject politically, because the EEC feels that its help could be wasted without proper cooperation on the spot with the local authorities. Yet

the developing countries are deeply suspicious of any interference in the way they organize their programmes.

There is another irony, which makes the whole sorry situation even more difficult: many of the world's hungry live in countries where there is a food surplus. India, statistically, has a food surplus. Several South American countries with chronic malnutrition in large sectors of the population are food exporters.

In consequence it is not just a question of finding ways of producing the food but of helping to create the wealth which enables people to buy it. That in turn means wider trading rights, industrial cooperation and generally finding ways of improving the economy of the developing world.

That is something well beyond the competence of the EEC on its own, and a task which in comparison makes the butter-mountain problem shrink to molehill proportions.

Tomorrow: Trade and hunger

## White trio on ANC spy charge

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

A white conspiracy, Mr Roland Hunter, is to be tried in Pretoria next month, accused of spying for the banned African National Congress.

Two other whites, Mr Derek Hanekom, and his wife, Patricia, will appear with him on the same charge of treason. They are accused of recruiting him for the ANC and of arranging his contacts with the organization.

Mr Hunter is alleged to have stolen, copied and removed "a large variety of documents and items pertaining to intelligence on military structures, personnel and operations". These included lists of names and addresses of South African Defence Force personnel.

The Hanekoms are said to have recruited Mr Hunter in February last year, when he was a clerk in a Defence Force intelligence office.

## Madrid seeks UK deal on extradition

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

106 extradition requests by Spain's Minister of Justice, believes it is "urgent and important" to start negotiations with Britain on a new extradition treaty.

"We are willing to do everything necessary to stop Englishmen finding refuge here in Spain from British justice," the minister said in an interview with *The Times* at the weekend.

Serious negotiations by top officials of Britain and Spain could resolve the problems in a matter of months, he said. The picture conveyed of Spain as a haven for fugitives from British justice was an absolutely unwanted image.

"Spain should not and cannot become a refuge, just as I suppose British citizens would not like the Spanish choosing England precisely to avoid Spanish justice."

Questioned about press reports that five Britons, sought by Scotland Yard in connexion with inquiries into two large robberies last year, are living in luxury on Spain's Costa del Sol, Señor Ledesma said: "Of course, we do not like it."

He said the situation did not exist with other European countries. "Bilateral arrangements function very well and without any difficulties or obstacles. At Cabinet meetings we regularly have before us extradition requests in significant numbers from West Germany, the United States, France and Italy, and they go through."

Figures produced by Spanish officials showed that a total of

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## Soldier shot Aquino report says

From Keith Dahoa, Manila

The killing of the Philippine opposition leader, Benigno Aquino, was part of a military conspiracy and his assassin was a soldier rather than a hired communist gunman as the Government claims, two law associations told the commission investigating the former senator's death.

Details of their joint submission, released at the weekend, coincide with the reported death in a military hospital of Mr Rosendo Cawigan, the only civilian to support military claims that the Aquino murder was a communist plot. Mr Cawigan, aged 44, died on Friday of a heart ailment.

A self-confessed double agent, he had been under protective military custody since he testified that a communist agent, Rolando Galman, was hired to kill Mr Aquino.

Some of the panel's five members privately complained that Mr Cawigan was an unreliable witness whose testimony was contradictory and unsubstantiated. The Philippines Bar Association and Catholic Lawyers' Group of the Philippines, both accredited independent observers during the eight-month inquiry, dismissed the possibility that Mr Cawigan was the assassin.

APPEAL REJECTED: The Philippines Government has rejected an appeal by Cardinal Sin, Archbishop of Manila, for a general amnesty for political dissidents (Reuters report).

## Train driver held after Yugoslav crash kills 31

Ljubljana, Yugoslavia (AP)

The Red Cross yesterday said 31 people had lost their lives in a train crash near the Italian border on Saturday.

A goods train ploughed into the back of a crowded overnight express which had stopped at Divaca, a village about 15 miles south of the Italian city of Trieste. Yugoslav state radio reported 36 deaths, but a Red Cross official yesterday said: "The final count is 31."

The official said 33 people were injured, four critically, but all were expected to survive.

Decade Novosti newspaper, published in Belgrade, said there were no foreigners among the casualties.

The express, travelling from Belgrade to the Adriatic resort towns of Koper and Pola, was carrying about 1,500 people on

the first weekend of the peak holiday season.

The goods train rammed the stationary express at a speed of about 37 mph, heavily damaging the last three carriages, the state-run Tanjug news agency said.

The driver of the goods train was arrested. Sunday newspapers said investigations continued but it appeared he failed to heed two flashing red stop signals.

Damage was estimated at more than 64m dinars (about £340,000 with 16 goods wagons also destroyed).

CASTELGANDOLFO: The Pope prayed yesterday for the dead and injured (Reuters report). He told thousands of pilgrims attending the Angelus service at his summer retreat that he expressed solidarity with the families of the dead

## Phoenix to be kept as a theatre

London's Phoenix Theatre, which has been on the market since March, will be saved for future players by its new owners who expect to complete the contract for the property by the end of this month (David Hewson writes).

Chesterfield Properties, which already owns the Comedy Theatre and the Curzon Cinema, is thought to be the leading contender to take over the Charing Cross road theatre and the complex of shops and flats which accompany it. But a consortium of anonymous London showbusiness and leisure figures have also put in a bid for the Phoenix in the hope of building a television studio into the complex.

Both parties are determined to keep open the theatre, a grade II listed building.

The property was put on the market as part of the Flint-Shipman family trust, which did not rule out a change of use.

Mr Roger Wingate, the Managing Director of Chesterfield, said that he hoped to conclude the deal to buy the complex before the end of the month. The price is expected to be less than the owner's original asking price of £2.75m.

## Glue sniffing guidelines inadequate, JPs say

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Home Office guidelines sent to chief police officers on how to tackle glue sniffers are being criticized by magistrates and their clerks as inadequate.

The Home Office has told the police to adopt an informal approach in tackling glue sniffers, offering help and advice and discussing their behaviour "in a low-key way". Issued in response to concern that the police are powerless to deal with glue sniffing, the circular says that criminal law is not the most effective way of tackling solvent abuse.

But both the Magistrates' Association and the Justices' Clerks Society, the chief legal advisers to magistrates, say that the police need statutory powers to detain juveniles found sniffing.

Mr Brian Harris, QC, clerk to the Bournemouth, Dorset, justices, welcomed the emphasis on an informal approach. But the guidelines were defective, he said, in regard to the more difficult children who did not fall into the "at risk" category and were not inclined to accept help.

He foresaw a number of cases with difficult children hanging around in city areas openly sniffing in the public view about which the police can do

nothing. It's putting them in a very difficult situation."

He said that the police should have the power to detain a child in a place of safety such as a hospital, police station or home so that a parent, doctor or social worker could be contacted.

Mr Geoffrey Norman Magistrates' Association secretary, said that the circular failed to recognize the problem of imitative behaviour and the "corrupting influence of older children in introducing younger ones to solvent abuse."

Glue sniffing is not a criminal offence and the government is not intending to make it one, or to give the police formal powers. But it has said that it will back legislation extending to England and Wales the Scottish offence of selling substances to young people.

The circular spells out the circumstances where the Home Secretary believes that the police can detain juveniles in a place of safety.

These are where the juvenile is thought to be a habitual misuser of drugs or is known to be abused or neglected at home, or in an emergency such as when a plastic bag is seen being placed over the head or an aerosol sprayed into the mouth.

## Parents fail to recognize measles risk

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Children are at significant risk from measles because their parents mistakenly look on the disease as being trivial, a report published today says. Between 15 and 20 children may have died from measles in the past year and up to 600 have been seriously ill, according to the Office of Health Economics.

Public attitudes have led to only about half the children in England and Wales being vaccinated against the disease, whereas measles vaccination is almost universal in the United States.

The report says cases of the disease were at least 50 times more numerous compared with the United States in 1982, and notifications of it were 250 times the United States total, when expressed as a rate per head of population.

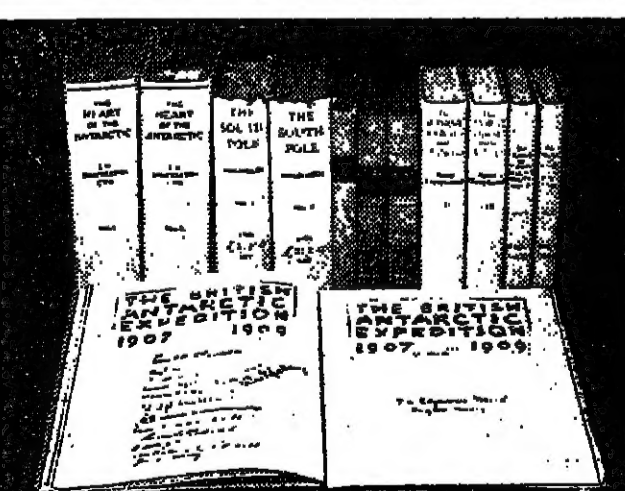
More than 100,000 measles cases were notified to the health authorities last year. The report estimates that between 15 and 20 children will have died as a result, 500 to 600 will have suffered convulsions, and five children have probably been left brain damaged.

The report also highlights the need to encourage more girls aged between 10 and 14 years to be immunized against rubella, or German measles. Unprotected women run the risk of having babies born with heart deficiency, deafness and other defects if they are exposed to rubella during early pregnancy.

The Government target for rubella immunization is 95 per cent, but in spite of a publicity campaign, the figure is 83 per cent. The report predicts that the target will not be reached for another six years.

Childhood Vaccination: Current Controversies (Office of Health Economics, 12 Whitehall, London SW1A 2DY; £1).

## EXPEDITIONS INTO WORLD RECORD PRICES



This rare collection of books from the great era of polar exploration made world record prices at Phillips in June this year. In almost perfect condition with original dust wrappers, the collection features the autographs of the British Antarctic Expedition 1907-1909.

We are now accepting items for our next sale of books, atlases, manuscripts, autograph letters and historical documents. This takes place on Thursday 20 September during the 10th Antiquarian Book Fair in London.

Christopher Saxton's Atlas of England (1st Edition) and de Wit's Atlas (c.1688) are among many highly interesting books already submitted.

Items for this sale can be accepted until the first week in August. Please contact James Smith on Ext 351, or your nearest Phillips branch.

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## Gandhi sets up special courts in drive against Sikh extremists

The Indian Government this weekend forged another weapon for its armoury against Sikh extremism. By presidential ordinance it created a new system of anti-terrorist courts, designed to speed justice for those accused of extremist crimes and to protect the courts from interference and intimidation.

The ordinance (which will cover the whole of India except Jammu and Kashmir, where different rules apply) empowers Delhi to declare an area a terrorist-affected area, and in such an area to set up special courts for trying extremist-related offences.

These would cover the whole gamut of offences from waging war on the state, through abetting mutiny and promoting enmity between the classes, to

From Michael Hasalya, Delhi

making remarks prejudicial to national integrity. The courts will sit *in camera*, so that witnesses may give their evidence without being intimidated. According to one report, the rule for the conduct of certain cases is likely to change too, to reduce the burden of proof placed upon the prosecution.

Under the Indian constitution, the Government may legislate by presidential ordinance when Parliament is not sitting (the monsoon session begins next week), but the ordinance has to be confirmed by Parliament when it reassembles. It is, however, a rather simpler procedure than the usual enactment of a parliamentary Bill, and can be put in operation immediately. It was widely reported that

Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, the Sikh leader who died in the Army operation against the Golden Temple of Amritsar last month, used to interfere with the course of justice in Punjab by the simple expedient of making threatening telephone calls to witnesses, court officials and judges. The Government plainly wishes to stop such intimidation.

Meanwhile, Delhi is ensuring that today's planned march of "martyrs' bands" towards the Golden Temple does not take place.

A number of prescriptive arrests of middle-rank leaders of the Sikh political party have been made, and marchers have been given warning that orders prohibiting the gathering of more than four people in public will be strictly enforced.

## Troops fire to disperse Kashmir protesters

Srinagar (Reuters) - Indian paramilitary troops fired in the air and police used riot sticks to disperse demonstrators planning a memorial march in this city, the capital of the sensitive state of Jammu and Kashmir.

About 300 protesters waving black flags and shouting "God is great" followed the sacked Chief Minister, Mr Farooq Abdullah, who emerged from hiding at the weekend to lead the banned march.

Security forces fired three shots in the air and police used riot sticks to break up the procession. Witnesses said the shooting panicked the demonstrators, who fled back to the party office. No casualties were reported.

Mr Abdullah said the protest was to have replaced the march traditionally held on July 13 to commemorate a 1931 uprising against the Hindu ruler of the predominantly Muslim state. Authorities banned the march this year, saying they feared violence.

"We will take out this procession even if the police and paramilitary start shooting us," Mr Abdullah said earlier, at his headquarters.

Srinagar's deputy Inspector-General of Police, Mr A. M. Watali, said he told Mr Abdullah he would have to apply in writing for permission from the state authorities if he planned to lead another protest march.



Taking a break: President Marcos of the Philippines resting during a surprise visit to an army camp.

## Damascus imposes ceasefire in northern Lebanon

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

An attempt by Mr Sulaiman Franjeh, the former president, to increase his Christian Maronite power base in northern Lebanon was brought to a temporary halt yesterday by the Syrians. They imposed a ceasefire on his Marada private army and the small Syrian National Socialist Party militia attacked by Marada last Wednesday at a cost of 40 lives, most of them civilians.

Mr Franjeh, a close friend of Colonel Rifaat Assad, the Syrian Vice-President and brother of President Assad, sent his bespectacled son, Robert, to Damascus where he was prevailed upon - but not admonished - by Mr Abdul Halim Khaddam, another of Syria's three vice-presidents, to abide by a truce. Mr Khaddam is in no position to threaten Mr Franjeh when the latter has such powerful friends, although the ceasefire duly went into effect yesterday morning.

Local Lebanese police in the area of the fighting said both sides were reinforcing their positions around Khour, part of Lebanon under Syrian occupation. This is not surprising since the battles of the past four days have been far more than an inter-militia squabble.

Mr Sulaiman Franjeh, while ostensibly an ally of Damascus, made it clear at the Lausanne conference on the future of Lebanon in March that he would not participate in the

new Syrian-supported Government of President Gemayel. Since that date, he has attempted to extend his own Maronite fiefdom in the Cedar Mountains above Ehden in the hope that he might one day link up with the Maronite regions to the south, under rival Phalangist control.

By advancing into the Khour district, whose local National Socialist militia is largely Greek Orthodox, he is bringing his own Christian force closer to that of the Phalange.

If the Phalangists break apart - perhaps with the death of their aging leader, Mr Pierre Gemayel - then Franjeh might be in a position to lead a unified Christian enclave stretching from Beirut north to the edge of Tripoli. The Franjeh family would thus be in the ascendant.



Mr Franjeh: Seeking to extend his fiefdom.

## Quirk of empire fuels a war

A legal anomaly hanging over the days of the East India Company is claimed by the tribal inhabitants of an area in the south of Bihar state to mean they are not part of India, and may indeed owe allegiance to Britain instead (Michael Hasalya writes from Delhi).

The area, 1,200 square miles of forests and hills called Kothan in the Singhbhum ("Lion-Territory") district of the state, is inhabited by people of the Ho tribe. Captain Thomas Wilkinson, an agent of the governor general in Calcutta, first brought the area under the control of what was then the South-West Frontier Agency in 1833.

He framed his own rules which had the effect of bringing the area under the direct management of the British Government.

Mr Christ Anand Topno, who was described as in charge of legal affairs and foreign affairs for the "Government of Kothan", is still in jail after being arrested in 1981.

But Mr Narayan Jonka, who describes himself as the head of the Kothan government, escaped to the hills, and has since waged a war on the Government.

## Stranded yachtsman fears for his life

From a Correspondent, Perth

An English yachtsman, fleeing from a murder charge in the Philippines, is stranded in Sabah, Malaysia, with two young Australian-born daughters.

Mr George Anthon aged 45, told *The Times* last night that he was living in fear of his life because he had killed a man involved with drug and gun-running rackets.

Mr Anthon said he had shot a "drunken maniac" who broke into his yacht in the Philippines last April and attacked his daughters, Michelle, aged 7, and Katrina, aged 9.

"I fired two warning shots but he ignored them - I had no choice but to shoot him," Mr Anthon said. "When I found he was dead, I sent my crewmen for the police and was arrested."

After the arrest, he spent some months in jail with his daughters, he alleged. "Eventually, I was released on \$A20,000 (£2,500) bail but then I started receiving death threats. I believe they came from friends of the man I killed."

"The only way to save my children was to escape to another country so I paid another \$A20,000 to charter a yacht to Sabah in Malaysia."

Mr Anthon believed his family would be safe in Malaysia because it had no extradition treaty with the Philippines, but local authorities were now threatening to deport him back to Manila, he said.

He was expecting to be placed on a plane to the Philippines at 1.30 pm local time yesterday, with his children. *The Times* was unable to contact him at his hotel after this and staff said they had no idea where he was.

As he spoke of fears for his family's safety during an earlier call, his daughters' voices could be heard.

Their mother, Mrs Dorothy Anthon, aged 35, of Busselton, Western Australia, said her husband "look - the - children illegally from Australia two years ago although she had been awarded custody by the courts. She said she had been attempting to have the children returned through a legal action in the Philippines."

A senior Australian Foreign Affairs Department spokesman in Canberra, Mr John McCarthy, confirmed that Mr Anthon was wanted on a murder charge in the Philippines.

## Dali breaks retreat to see gallery

Figueras (AFP) - Salvador Dali emerged from a year of seclusion for the first time on Friday, paying an impromptu visit to a gallery devoted to his work in this north eastern Spanish town where he was born near the French border.

Dali, aged 84, was away for almost two hours from his castle at Pubol in Gerona province. Leaving on his silver tipped walking stick and accompanied by his manservant, Arturo, and artist friend and a nurse, the painter left his home soon after 10pm to drive the short distance to Figueras Museum.

He looked happy and onlookers heard him say: "I want to work. I want to see my gallery. I want to view my latest work."



Salvador Dali: First sortie after a year.

## Talks on hotline going well

From Mohsin Ali Washington

US and Soviet officials are due to hold a further session of their "businesslike and productive" talks here today on modernizing the so-called crisis "hotline" between their two capitals.

The State Department would not comment on reports that the negotiators were nearing agreement. It refused to predict when the talks, begun last Wednesday, would be completed.

The fourth round is part of a continuing effort by the two superpowers to upgrade the White House-Kremlin communications link designed to stave off misunderstanding during crises which could lead to accidental war.

Last year President Reagan proposed a modernised hotline as a further confidence-building measure. The talks which have been going on for nearly a year are an exception to the generally chilly US-Soviet relations.

The present hotline, installed soon after the Cuban missile crisis 22 years ago, uses a slow, 66-word per minute teleprinter. The improved system that the American side wants to see installed in the two capitals would permit almost instantaneous transmission of messages, maps, charts and other graphics.

## Embassy messages may mark Falklands thaw

From Douglas Tweedale, Buenos Aires

Argentina and Britain have exchanged diplomatic messages which could mark progress in talks on the Falkland Islands, the leading daily newspaper, *Clarín*, reported yesterday.

The newspaper said the Argentine Foreign Ministry "responded last week to a British communication sent through the Swiss embassy". It spoke of renewed optimism in London.

According to diplomatic sources in Buenos Aires, communication between the two sides has never actually been interrupted, although "it has

been quite slow in recent months."

● **MISSILE FEAR:** Mr Tom Dailly, Labour MP for Louth, has asked Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, how seriously he takes a report that Argentina is developing a missile which could hit the Falklands from the Argentine mainland (the Press Association reports).

In a letter Mr Dailly asks Mr Heseltine what steps he would be prepared to take to defend troops and civilians on the island and its airport.

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A Toyota is a superb car to have any time of year. But right now it's unbeatable. Because never before has your Toyota dealer been able to offer you a better deal. From now - and right through August - you'll find he's got the best value-for-money vehicles, whatever you're looking for. Superb styling. Outstanding features. Great performance and amazing economy. All backed up by a world-wide reputation for reliability. But that's not all. Your Toyota dealer will be happy to talk about your existing car. It may be worth more than you thought.

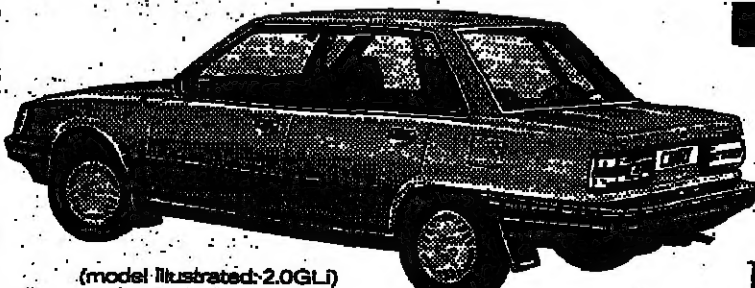
Call your local Toyota dealer today - you'll find he's in the Yellow Pages. Arrange a test-drive either from your home or office (there's no obligation). Let him tell you about the kind of deal he can offer for August.



(model illustrated: Celica 2.0XT Liftback)

### THE CAMRY

Three elegant models to choose from - the 1.8GL, the 2.0GL, and even a Turbo-charged diesel version. All sumptuously appointed. Independent suspension all round for taut handling. With front-wheel drive to put the power down just where you want it - and power steering to tame it all. Plus - as you would expect - interiors fit for a prince. Prices from £6833 (1.8GL).



(model illustrated: 2.0GL)

### THE CELICA

The Celica XT combines sports car excitement with the smooth refinement of a luxury saloon - only this time it's strictly 2+2. Three models - the 2.0 litre XT Coupe and Liftback and the top of the range 1300mph+ Celica Supra 2.8i. Sharply raked styling, independent suspension (tuned by Lotus in the Celica Supra),

power aplenty with all the features you'll ever need (including cruise-control and air conditioning in the Celica Supra). Five-speed box. Alloy wheels. Ventilated front discs. Electric sun-roof. Stereo/radio cassette. What more could you want? Prices from £7649 (Celica XT Coupe).

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# Third parties help Lange to oust Muldoon in New Zealand poll

From W. P. Reeves  
Wellington

With considerable help from the mixed fortunes of third parties, Labour yesterday dispatched the Muldoon Government.

Although it captured only 43 per cent of the vote Mr David Lange's party won a majority on Saturday night, of 17 seats in the 95-member Parliament. The outgoing National Party Government had ruled with an effective majority of one until a backbencher last month withdrew from the caucus, precipitating the snap election.

The average swing to Labour was a little over 4 per cent but was far from uniform across the country. Five Cabinet ministers - Mr Hugh Templeton, Trade and Industry; Mr Ben Couch, Police and Maori Affairs; Mr Jonathan Ewart, Lands; Mr Aussie Malcomson, Health; and Dr Ian Shearer, Broadcasting - lost their seats, along with Sir Richard Harrison, who was Speaker throughout Sir Robert Muldoon's nine-year administration.

The results in five other electorates held by the National Party with election-night majorities of fewer than 300 may be upset when all the votes are in.

The outcome reflects a strong anti-Muldoon sentiment, reflecting a desire for an alternative to what has been called his divisive and arrogant style of government.

The three principal parties

## Canberra applauds Labour triumph

Mr Bob Hawke, the Australian Prime Minister, said yesterday he expected links between Australia and New Zealand to grow even stronger now that both had Labour parties in power (Reuter from Canberra).

The Australian Labour Party came to power in March last year. Mr Hawke telephoned his congratulations last night to Mr Lange.

Mr Lange, who has promoted himself as a non-doctrinaire consensus man, built his campaign around the need for national reconciliation. The details of Labour policies were always thin on the ground. He

ran against the National Party all concentrated on attacking the outgoing Prime Minister's style. The New Zealand Party, a right-wing group founded out of disillusionment with National because of its tolerance of Muldoon's interventionist economic strategy, helped Labour to victory.

"We destroyed the Government," Mr Robert Jones, the New Zealand Party's leader said yesterday. Although winning no seats, the party took slightly more than 12 per cent of the vote, most of it from National. The collapse of the Social Credit vote from 21 per cent to about eight also helped Labour.

Mr Lange, who has promoted himself as a non-doctrinaire consensus man, built his campaign around the need for national reconciliation. The details of Labour policies were always thin on the ground. He

attributes victory to having defined the issues and captured the public mood.

He said yesterday that his immediate priorities were to achieve a careful transition, allocate the portfolios to his parliamentary party's selections for Cabinet ranking, tell the truth, open the country's books, call Parliament together and start to work at overcoming the country's difficulties.

He proposes to call various groups together to seek cooperation on economic recovery, much as Mr Bob Hawke, the Australian Prime Minister, did on his election.

Sir Robert blames defeat on the "spurious appeal" of Mr Jones and what he calls his "greedies". Having engineered Labour's victory, they would suffer the most from it, he said. As to his future, Sir Robert sees himself as leader of the Opposition and Prime Minister again in three years.

His determination to hold on poses a dilemma for the National Party. Grumbles about his unorthodoxies have been going on for a long time, and the New Zealand Party vote testifies to the damage defections can inflict.

● **DEVALUATION FEARS:** The New Zealand Reserve Bank yesterday suspended all foreign exchange dealings indefinitely, heightening speculation the new government will devalue the New Zealand dollar (the Associated Press-Dow Jones reports).

The bank's governor, Mr Spencer Russell, said the bank took the action because of uncertainties in the foreign market. He said the suspension will "allow time for the position to be reassessed". Provision had been made for banks and other foreign exchange dealers to meet urgent needs of travellers.

Leading article, page 13



Grasping victory: Mr Lange greets supporters at his Auckland headquarters.

## Leader with a commanding presence

Mr David Lange, the new Prime Minister, has had a meteoric rise. He entered Parliament on the Opposition side only seven years ago. Within two years, he was promoted by his Labour caucus colleagues to the deputy leadership (W. P. Reeves writes from Wellington).

He was persuaded to run for the leadership two years later, falling to unseat the incumbent, Sir Wallace Rowling, by a single vote. Sir Wallace then stood aside in favour of his deputy last year.

Mr Lange is not as aggressively ambitious as this record might suggest. He was propelled by his colleagues who saw in him the leader Labour needed. They admired his sharp wit, debating skills, quick grasp of issues and, above all, his refusal to be

intimidated in the House by the bruising style of Sir Robert Muldoon.

The new leader also has a commanding presence. With the aid of surgery two years ago, he has been able to reduce his bulk from a massive 25 stone to a still impressive 17 stone. He has grown in stature since his elevation to the leadership of the Opposition and he strengthened his appeal and credibility on the campaign trail by hardly putting a foot wrong.

The criticism most often expressed is that he is light on the detail necessary to fill out his ringing rhetoric. He has been likened to a favourite New Zealand pudding, the Pavlova - spongy in the middle. He is an ebullient and social person with a reputation as a jester.

Mr Lange, aged 42, has nothing of the cloth cap Labour tradition about him. The son of a doctor, he was brought up in a family of strong religious conviction in a working class district of Auckland.

He qualified as a lawyer and met his future wife in London when she was attached to the Methodist Mission. He practised law in Auckland before entering Parliament at a by-election in 1977.

Mr Lange is no doctrinaire socialist. He identifies with the underdog and is a stout promoter of social justice. "I'm a product of an age when New Zealand's resources were put into ensuring that the young had security and educational opportunities," he said last week.

"I come from a background not doctrinaire in terms of the state and its institutions." He believes state enterprises have a role but should be efficient and he has no complaint about making a profit.

One of the tests of his administration will be his ability to contain the left wing of his party in much the same way Mr Bob Hawke, the Australian Prime Minister, from whom he draws much tactical inspiration, has done.

Mr Lange's handicap is that he lacks any long, toughening political apprenticeship. The new Prime Minister sees himself presiding over the Cabinet as a sort of chairman of the board. He hinted last week, however, that he may take over the foreign affairs portfolio.

## Israelis speed up settlement drive ahead of election

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Israel has embarked on an intensive new settlement drive in the occupied territories which opposition critics claim is directly linked to the campaign for next week's general election.

Mr Shimon Peres, the opposition Labour leader, has pledged publicly that existing Jewish settlements will not be uprooted if he becomes Prime Minister.

It is known that many Jewish nationalists are anxious to create what they describe as "tracks on the ground" in anticipation of a possible change of government and of settlement policy. The ruling right-wing Likud still trails behind Labour in the opinion polls.

Yesterday, the ministerial settlement committee chaired by the Cabinet's leading hawk, Mr Itzhak Mordechai, the Minister of Science, formally approved the construction of four new outposts in the occupied West Bank. They included one named Avnei Hefetz, to house 1,000 Jewish families less than three miles from the Arab town of Tul-karm.

There has been also a rush to

inaugurate those sites which have already won Government sanction. The official effort is being supplemented by various ultra-nationalist groups establishing so-called "pioneer" tent settlements in certain key areas.

It is understood the upsurge of settlement activity will continue until the end of the campaign, with three new settlements scheduled for inauguration less than 24 hours before the polling booths open.

According to Israel Radio, 500 million shekels (about £1.5m) has been lavished by the Government in the past month alone on infrastructure for nine new settlements.

Labour's platform commits it to cutting back heavily on government finance for the settlement programme and preventing further construction of Jewish outposts in areas densely populated by Arabs.

Yesterday, official statistics showed that Israel's inflation rose by 13.3 per cent during June, the highest figure for that month in the country's history. The sharp rise was bad news for the Likud - which has already seen inflation soar to above 400 per cent a year - but it had been widely predicted.

June and four times last June's figure, the annual rate is about 400 per cent.

The announcement came as trade unions launched fresh strikes in their campaign for higher inflation compensation. Labour unrest spread to some bank branches and printers began a 24-hour stoppage.



Mr Njonjo: Cousin of accused businessman.

## Prosecutor denies trial was bungled to protect Njonjo

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

A judicial inquiry, which has been sitting here for more than six months, has heard allegations that the prosecution of a Kenyan businessman for treason in 1981 was bungled to protect the Minister for Constitutional Affairs, at the time, Mr Charles Njonjo, a cousin of the accused businessman.

This suggestion, made by the counsel leading evidence before the commission of three judges, was vigorously denied by Mr Sharad Rao, who prosecuted the treason case. Mr Rao agreed that Mr Njonjo resented what he saw as an attempt to connect him with an allegation of treason, and insisted on being called as a witness to clear his name. But he denied withholding any evidence that could have strengthened the prosecution case. The case had failed because it was weak.

It was shown that someone in the Kenya Government had prior knowledge of the coup attempt, although this was officially denied at the time.

Mr Devereil has frequently complained that the three judges, headed by Mr Justice Cecil Miller, a Guyanese, do not allow him to challenge adequately some of the evidence presented. In turn, the judges have accused him of rudeness. The verbal battles fascinate the crowded public benches.

The commission's proceedings are reported at length in the newspapers here, but Mr Devereil has also complained that some of the reports constitute contempt, being deliberately designed to arouse feeling against Mr Njonjo. There is no indication of how many more witnesses are to be called.

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## Salvador rebels blow train up

San Salvador (AP) - Left-wing guerrillas blew an empty goods train off the tracks and killed at least 20 government security men in an ensuing battle, authorities said here.

The guerrillas set powerful charges on the line at San Antonio Grande, 25 miles north of the capital and detonated them as the 10-car train passed, a spokesman for the national railways said. The train was on its way to Metapan to pick up cement.

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## Ulster woman seeks asylum

Newark, New Jersey (Reuter) - A Northern Irish woman, seeking political asylum in the United States, told a federal immigration judge that her life would be in danger if she returned home.

Aine Marie Devanny, a 33-year-old switchboard operator who has lived in America since 1980, said she might be a target for political extremists because she had witnessed the beating to death of her father Samuel Devanny by a group of eight policemen in 1969.

## Blazing oil slick on the Volga

Moscow (Reuter) - Fire-fighting launches battled through the night to control a blazing oil slick on the Volga river after oil leaked from a damaged pipeline, the newspaper *Trud* revealed.

The slick, 3.5 miles long and 500 yards across, occurred near the city of Kazan, 350 miles south-east of Moscow and threatened the ecology of the Volga basin. But it was successfully dispersed.

## Hawke steers a safe course

From Tony Dubouille  
Melbourne

Being in government concentrated the mind of the Australian Labour Party wonderfully.

The party's biennial national conference, which ended in Canberra on Friday, was a masterful exercise. In pragmatism and has undoubtedly done much to pave the way for victory at the next election.

The conference managed to avoid adopting any policy which could be seen as electorally damaging, although it certainly emerged with a platform which did not hem it in too seriously on any issue.

For the left, the conference was a disaster and marked its demise as a force for the next few years. The conference did see, however, the rise of a significant new alliance in the party, the centre-left faction which, under the leadership of Mr Bill Hayden, the Foreign Minister, delivered a well-disciplined block of votes and dominated proceedings.

For Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister, it was a satisfying conference in that he saw virtually all his policies carried, with the exception of a mere liberal stand on uranium mining and export.

On the issue of East Timor, which had been tipped as the question most likely to cause problems, the party dropped its previous insistence on the withdrawal of recognition of the incorporation of East Timor by Indonesia and called on the Australian Government to give active support to international initiatives, particularly those of the United Nations, which sought a Timor settlement.

Other issues which had caused much concern and were favourites of the left, such as the Anzus treaty, the entry of nuclear-powered or armed vessels into Australian ports, and the security services, all ended with the centre-left prevailing.

A move to take Australia out of Anzus was soundly defeated after a debate during which Mr Hawke accused the left of violent anti-Americanism. The conference agreed to reform the security services but not abolish them.

It also decided to allow American bases in Australia to continue under existing conditions but to ban the regular use of any port for foreign naval ships if their frequency was comparable to foreign vessels being "home ported" in Australia.

The question of nuclear-armed or powered vessels visiting Australia, resulted in defeat for a move to ban their access. A similar effort to ban nuclear-armed aircraft from Australian soil or airspace was also defeated.

Many conference decisions would have sat quite happily with the Liberal-National Party and that is one of the big problems facing Mr Andrew Peacock, the Opposition leader. The Labour Party, in its anxiety to retain power, is stealing much of his ground.



Mr Hawke: Paving the way to success.

## Death in Venice

Venice (Reuter), (AP) - A man was still missing yesterday after a tourist launch collided with a barge under tow in the Venice lagoon on Saturday night, killing a mother and her daughter.

## Cambridge Tripos results: Modern and medieval languages, philosophy

The following Tripos examination results from Cambridge University are announced.

\* denotes Distinction

**MODERN AND MEDIEVAL LANGUAGES**

To indicate that in the Tripos examination the candidate has achieved a high standard, the following results are given in the Tripos Class 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

**Class 1: 1st Year, 2nd Year, 3rd Year, 4th Year, 5th Year, 6th Year, 7th Year, 8th Year, 9th Year, 10th Year, 11th Year, 12th Year, 13th Year, 14th Year, 15th Year, 16th Year, 17th Year, 18th Year, 19th Year, 20th Year, 21st Year, 22nd Year, 23rd Year, 24th Year, 25th Year, 26th Year, 27th Year, 28th Year, 29th Year, 30th Year, 31st Year, 32nd Year, 33rd Year, 34th Year, 35th Year, 36th Year, 37th Year, 38th Year, 39th Year, 40th Year, 41st Year, 42nd Year, 43rd Year, 44th Year, 45th Year, 46th Year, 47th Year, 48th Year, 49th Year, 50th Year, 51st Year, 52nd Year, 53rd Year, 54th Year, 55th Year, 56th Year, 57th Year, 58th Year, 59th Year, 60th Year, 61st Year, 62nd Year, 63rd Year, 64th Year, 65th Year, 66th Year, 67th Year, 68th Year, 69th Year, 70th Year, 71st Year, 72nd Year, 73rd Year, 74th Year, 75th Year, 76th Year, 77th Year, 78th Year, 79th Year, 80th Year, 81st Year, 82nd Year, 83rd Year, 84th Year, 85th Year, 86th Year, 87th Year, 88th Year, 89th Year, 90th Year, 91st Year, 92nd Year, 93rd Year, 94th Year, 95th Year, 96th Year, 97th Year, 98th Year, 99th Year, 100th Year.**

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**Class 3: 1st Year, 2nd Year, 3rd Year, 4th Year, 5th Year, 6th Year, 7th Year, 8th Year, 9th Year, 10th Year, 11th Year, 12th Year, 13th Year, 14th Year, 15th Year, 16th Year, 17th Year, 18th Year, 19th Year, 20th Year, 21st Year, 22nd Year, 23rd Year, 24th Year, 25th Year, 26th Year, 27th Year, 28th Year, 29th Year, 30th Year, 31st Year, 32nd Year, 33rd Year, 34th Year, 35th Year, 36th Year, 37th Year, 38th Year, 39th Year, 40th Year, 41st Year, 42nd Year, 43rd Year, 44th Year, 45th Year, 46th Year, 47th Year, 48th Year, 49th Year, 50th Year, 51st Year, 52nd Year, 53rd Year, 54th Year, 55th Year, 56th Year, 57th Year, 58th Year, 59th Year, 60th Year, 61st Year, 62nd Year, 63rd Year, 64th Year, 65th Year, 66th Year, 67th Year, 68th Year, 69th Year, 70th Year, 71st Year, 72nd Year, 73rd Year, 74th Year, 75th Year, 76th Year, 77th Year, 78th Year, 79th Year, 80th Year, 81st Year, 82nd Year, 83rd Year, 84th Year, 85th Year, 86th Year, 87th Year, 88th Year, 89th Year, 90th Year, 91st Year, 92nd Year, 93rd Year, 94th Year, 95th Year, 96th Year, 97th Year, 98th Year, 99th Year, 100th Year.**

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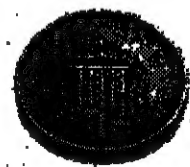
**Class 6: 1st Year, 2nd Year, 3rd Year, 4th Year, 5th Year, 6th Year, 7th Year, 8th Year, 9th Year, 10th Year, 11th Year, 12th Year, 13th Year, 14th Year, 15th Year, 16th Year, 17th Year, 18th Year, 19th Year, 20th Year, 21st Year, 22nd Year, 23rd Year, 24th Year, 25th Year, 26th Year, 27th Year, 28th Year, 29th Year, 30th Year, 31st Year, 32nd Year, 33rd Year, 34th Year, 35th Year, 36th Year, 37th Year, 38th Year, 39th Year, 40th Year, 41st Year, 42nd Year, 43rd Year, 44th Year, 45th Year, 46th Year, 47th Year, 48th Year, 49th Year, 50th Year, 51st Year, 52nd Year, 53rd Year, 54th Year, 55th Year, 56th Year, 57th Year, 58th Year, 59th Year, 60th Year, 61st Year, 62nd Year, 63rd Year, 64th Year, 65th Year, 66th Year, 67th Year, 68th Year, 69th Year, 70th Year, 71st Year, 72nd Year, 73rd Year, 74th Year, 75th Year, 76th Year, 77th Year, 78th Year, 79th Year, 80th Year, 81st Year, 82nd Year, 83rd Year, 84th Year, 85th Year, 86th Year, 87th Year, 88th Year, 89th Year, 90th Year, 91st Year, 92nd Year, 93rd Year, 94th Year, 95th Year, 96th Year, 97th Year, 98th Year, 99th Year, 100th Year.**

**Class 7: 1st Year, 2nd Year, 3rd Year, 4th Year, 5th Year, 6th Year, 7th Year, 8th Year, 9th Year, 10th Year, 11th Year, 12th Year, 13th Year, 14th Year, 15th Year, 16th Year, 17th Year, 18th Year, 19th Year, 20th Year, 21st Year, 22nd Year, 23rd Year, 24th Year, 25th Year, 26th Year, 27th Year, 28th Year, 29th Year, 30th Year, 31st Year, 32nd Year, 33rd Year, 34th Year, 35th Year, 36th Year, 37th Year, 38th Year, 39th Year, 40th Year, 41st Year, 42nd Year, 43rd Year, 44th Year, 45th Year, 46th Year, 47th Year, 48th Year, 49th Year, 50th Year, 51st Year, 52nd Year, 53rd Year, 54th Year, 55th Year, 56th Year, 57th Year, 58th Year, 59th Year, 60th Year, 61st Year, 62nd Year, 63rd Year, 64th Year, 65th Year, 66th Year, 67th Year, 68th Year, 69th Year, 70th Year, 71st Year, 72nd Year, 73rd Year, 74th Year, 75th Year, 76th Year, 77th Year, 78th Year, 79th Year, 80th Year, 81st Year, 82nd Year, 83rd Year, 84th Year, 85th Year, 86th Year, 87th Year, 88th Year, 89th Year, 90th Year, 91st Year, 92nd Year, 93rd Year, 94th Year, 95th Year, 96th Year, 97th Year, 98th Year, 99th Year, 100th Year.**

**Class 8: 1st Year, 2nd Year, 3rd Year, 4th Year, 5th Year, 6th Year, 7th Year, 8th Year, 9th Year, 10th Year, 11th Year, 12th Year, 13th Year, 14th Year, 15th Year, 16th Year, 17th Year, 18th Year, 19th Year, 20th Year, 21st Year, 22nd Year, 23rd Year, 24th Year, 25th Year, 26th Year, 27th Year, 28th Year, 29th Year, 30th Year, 31st Year, 32nd Year, 33rd Year, 34th Year, 35th Year, 36th Year, 37th Year, 38th Year, 39th Year, 40th Year, 41st Year, 42nd Year, 43rd Year, 44th Year, 45th Year, 46th Year, 47th Year, 48th Year, 49th Year, 50th Year, 51st Year, 52nd Year, 53rd Year, 54th Year, 55th Year, 56th Year, 57th Year, 58th Year, 59th Year, 60th Year, 61st Year, 62nd Year, 63rd Year,**



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David Thomas watches a rehearsal for 42nd Street, an old-fashioned musical with songs and tap-dancing from the Thirties.

# Come and meet those dancing feet

Photographs by Nobuyuki Chino



THE sound of 20 chorus-girls tap-dancing is like the thunder of an oncoming train or the rattle of market trolleys over cobbles. The sight of those same girls, clad in multicoloured leotards, tights and trackuits in row upon row of elasticated bottoms can disarm even the most hardened male reporter.

Such, at least, was my experience when sent to observe the rehearsals for the musical 42nd Street, which has its first preview at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane on July 26.

As I arrived an equally goggle-eyed TV crew was making the chorus run through the same number again and

again, but no amount of repetition seemed to dull the indignant energy and cheerfulness of the young supporting cast. The star of the show, Georgia Brown, was seated in the stalls watching it all. She seemed impressed by the display on stage: "Look at this - isn't it great? There's such a sweetness about them. They're so thrilled to be in a musical."

Would we see her joining in with some of her own? "I don't have to tap, thank God, but I do a little bit of dancing. It's my horror moment." She is playing the part of Dorothy Brock, a tyrannical but aging star. "When they asked me to do the

role," she said, "I was nervous because I thought it was a dancing part and I'm no dancer. They said, 'Don't be silly, there isn't any dancing in it.' Well, I don't know about that. I call anything which makes me lift one leg above the other dancing."

The feverish crashing continued on stage, accompanied all the while, as is the way with these showbiz types, by bright smiles and sparkling eyes. "Wouldn't it be wonderful to be able to do that," said Miss Brown to her co-star Margaret Courtenay. "We'd all get hennas, dear," came the sage reply. "There was a brief pause in the action. The cast gathered around the director Lucia Victor for a pep-talk like basketball players in a time out. The difference being that basketball players don't keep grinning when the coach bawls at them. All the happiness was becoming alarming."

"You're forming a solid mass on stage," cautioned the boss. "Spread out a little. Let's see some nice little pieces of action. Use your hands. Use your faces."

They set to work again, to the tune of the show's title song. 42nd Street is a classic example of Broadway creating its own myth. You may recall the film with Dick Powell as the young hero, Billy Lawler, and Ruby Keeler as Peggy Sawyer, the innocent chorus girl who becomes a star when the leading lady pulls out of a new musical on the opening night.

Its executive producer is Helen Montagu. "Break a leg," they say in the theatre as a token of good luck and she has done exactly that, which seems to be taking devotion to the cause to unnecessary lengths.

The search for young male and female tap-dancers - "the whole show is tap-dancing" - took the producers all over the country. There was no shortage of volunteers, which leads her to suppose that the noble art of tap is coming back into fashion.

Not only is the London cast, in the opinion of Miss Victor, who also directs the show in New York, as good as its Broadway counterpart, but they also dance authentic 1933 tap styles. "In the Thirties tap was very powerful and active. By the Forties it was much more laid-back and easy."

She lists some of the show's most famous numbers - "Lullaby of Broadway," "Dames," "Your Getting to be a Habit With Me," "We're in the Money," "Shuffle off to Buffalo," and so on - while Michael Howe, who is London's substitute for Dick Powell endeavours to explain the first principles of tap-dancing. "Basically the thing is to keep on the balls of your feet with your legs bent and to speak with your feet. The audience should be glued to a

tap-dancer. The moment he or she starts there should be total hush around the house." Even if there wasn't, I point out helpfully, no one would know, what with all the noise on stage.

But what I really want to know is this: why does everyone have to be so indecently joyful all the time? "We're playing it flat out for the innocence that's so lacking today and it's working gloriously," comes the adamant reply.

The songs are wonderful, as are the one-liners. "The only time she said 'No' she didn't hear the question." Brave attempts are made at transatlantic accents even if most of the cast do sound closer to Balfham than the Bronx, but no matter.

"You are on your way to glory at 32 bucks a week," someone tells the (fictional) chorus line. In fact the real kids are on the way to glory at around a £150 a week, but by

now - watching rehearsals of scenes about rehearsals - I am beginning to lose track of where reality ends and fantasy begins.

From the fifth row of the stalls the proceedings are being watched by the man who really knows exactly what is what - the show's producer David Merrick. He staged 42nd Street on Broadway in 1980, where it opened on a tragic note with the death of its original director and choreographer Gower Cham-

plon at one in the afternoon of its opening night. Since then it has run on its happier vein and is still packing them in in New York and around the world. This has done nothing but good for the finances of Mr Merrick who had the bright idea of buying out all the show's investors just before it first opened, with the result that it now brings him the astonishing sum of £375,000 per week.

Sadly, and one begins to wonder whether there isn't some sort of hex upon the production, he has suffered a stroke, which has left him with somewhat slurred speech and a stooping gait. He sits in the auditorium in a simple brown suit with glasses and a rather droopy moustache until slowly making his way out to a waiting limousine, in melancholy contrast to the exuberant vitality of his cast.

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TR



THE TIMESTEP (THE BASIC TAP STEP)

One and two and three and four  
Stomp right, brush right, hop left, flap right, flap left, step  
and five and six and seven and eight  
right, stomp left, brush left, hop right, flap right, flap left,  
and One and  
step left, stomp right and so on.

In other words, bring the right foot out hard with arms in front of you. Brush foot back and swing back arms as you hop onto the left foot. Then flick both feet out in front of you while swinging the arms, step onto the right foot and then launch out into the stomp on the left, repeating the whole procedure in reverse. Simple, no?

## The myth behind a mega-star

moreover...  
Miles Kington

Just who is Michael Jackson, anyway? Just about the greatest genius in the history of the world, that's who. It seems hard to believe, but already he's sold more albums than Leonardo da Vinci made in the whole of his life and he's sold more T-shirts than all the universities in the world put together. He's so big he makes Barry Manilow look like Barry Manilow. On his current American tour, huge crowds are forming in cities where he's not even playing. And more than a million illegal immigrants have crossed the Mexican border already this year, just to see a Michael Jackson concert.

He is, to use an American musical phrase, earning a lot of money. But why?

Well, the answer is that he can sing and dance a bit. But there must be more to it than that. Or must there? Maybe there isn't. Maybe people just like his name Michael Jackson. Well, it's OK as names go, but it's not the sort of name that you or I would go wind-surfing across America for.

Barbara Teichman did. She's a teenager from Goretex, Ohio. She said she had a hunch of a lot of trouble wind-surfing across the wheat prairies of the Midwest, but she'd do anything for Michael Jackson. Now she's serving a year for illegal flying across crops.

So what is the secret of this shy, reclusive Jehovah's Witness who doesn't smoke, drink or look at himself in the mirror? What is behind this showbiz hermit who has no friends but lots of costumes, this likeable young man who was recently burnt to death while filming Thriller and who has put the word "androgynous" back in the dictionary?

He is black but looks white, male but has soft features. American but travels on a Martian passport. Rumour is he may come from somewhere else. Is he, as some say, an Indian mystic who had already discovered the secret of life and wanted to move on into the disco field? Or is he a natural cricketer and adept player of fast bowling who had the

world, unless you're a Stevie Wonder fan.

So a legend was born. Every record he has ever made has gone straight to number one - even a record he only borrowed from a friend in 1982 went to number seven. At the age of 13, before his voice had broken, he was a star. At 17 his voice now broken, he was still a star, though not such a big one. So he took the deliberate decision to unbreak his voice and now, at 26 he is the biggest soprano in the business.

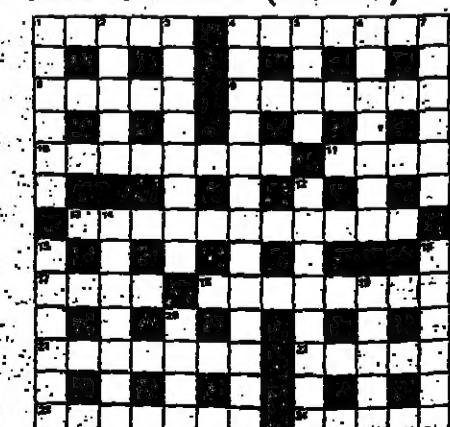
Yes, Michael Jackson is so rich that he could afford to have his own nuclear deterrent. He could retire five years ago and never have to work again. Yes, for a kid who can dance and sing a bit, he hasn't done badly. But he is still ambitious and it now seems certain that he will be Ronald Reagan's running mate in the autumn. Next year he could be Vice-President of the US and after that - who knows? A singing, dancing black man has never been President yet, but then they said a Hollywood bit actor would never make it either. Michael Jackson in the White House. Should be quite a video.

Recommended dictionary is the New Collins Concise

### CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 394)

- ACROSS
- 1 Umbrella flower (5)
  - 2 Extinct European cattle (7)
  - 3 Little banger (5)
  - 4 Furry encouragement (7)
  - 5 Paternal (8)
  - 6 Sketch (4)
  - 7 Over-sympathetic (4,7)
  - 8 Kind (4)
  - 9 Shril soup-maker (8)
  - 10 Introduction (7)
  - 11 Trick (5)
  - 12 Own (7)
  - 13 Radiocarbon (5)

- DOWN
- 1 Dangerous (6)
  - 2 Unstable (5)
  - 3 Opera text (8)
  - 4 Weak spot (8,5)
  - 5 Hazard (4)
  - 6 Food-value measure (7)
  - 7 Spread out untidily (6)
  - 8 Cause fighter (8)
  - 9 Eurydice's husband (7)
  - 15 Accelerate (4,2)
  - 16 Personal petition (6)
  - 17 Clear (5)
  - 18 Tazman's mate (4)





# MONDAY PAGE

## Why must I be out of step?

PENNY PERRICK



Is step-parenting going to be the ultimate relationship of the mid-1980s?

It certainly looks like it, what with Benjamin Spock going into analysis to cope with an 11-year-old stepdaughter, and romantically-inclined citizens seeking a change in the law, so that mother-in-law, or even stepmother, can become wife.

Even were they legally free to do so, I cannot see my own stepsons ever regarding me as the Romantic Older Woman.

When I think of the way I used to overreact when they filled the freezer with better-fried onion rings, it is possible that I did not just put them off me for life but turned them against the world female population.

When I married their father, I suspect that Cinderella, Snow White and Hansel and Gretel took on a whole new meaning. Not that I refused to let them go to the ball or fling them out into the snow—I just treated them the way I treat everybody else, including my own children.

That is, with a complete lack of tact and sensitivity!

I suppose the problem was that I was a premature stepmother, skipping unceremoniously across the minefield of taking on someone else's family before the mine had moved in with their detectors.

Now that Dr Spock has discovered the stepfather's problem, I expect a

task of books on the subject with titles such as *Stepping Can Be Fun and How To Stop Having Your Stepchild*.

Goodness knows, there's a demand for them. If one out of every three marriages ends in divorce and half of all those divorced spouses marry somebody else, it adds up to a lot of step-parents.

It also adds up to a need for a new etiquette book, to sort out all the ladies who wrote to *The Times* letters page recently, wanting to know how they should be properly addressed by their step-grandchildren.

Christian names all round is the only answer to that problem, especially as in these days of civilised divorce one often finds oneself bringing former in-laws into one's new kinship scheme.

Spending an evening saying, "May I introduce my ex-husband's brother—this is my step-niece", makes one feel like the Prologue of *Romeo and Juliet* crossed with one of the spicier episodes of *Dynasty*.

As a stepmother, whichever way you play it there is going to be trouble and you have to resign yourself to it. If you are true to your ownself and refuse to be smarmy, you run the risk of pointed comparisons with Mother

and getting the blame if not one single sulky teenager can be persuaded to stay for Christmas.

On the other hand, you model yourself on Truly Scrumptious, the adorable stepmother-to-be in the film, *Chitty-Chitty Bang Bang*, your stepchildren, aware that they're on to a good thing, will cleave to you unto death, which will certainly be yours.

A friend who is the Perfect Stepmother, as well as the Perfect

Wife, Mother and Hostess, was so idolized by her stepchildren that they stayed around until long past their twenty-fifth birthdays.

Her husband's first wife (looking years younger on account of having all that lovely freedom from domestic strife) used to come and visit and say: "What a wonderful life you and John could be having if only you could get rid of all those children", as if all those children were nothing to do with her.

Is this better than having stepchildren who ring up and when you answer say, "Can I speak to Dad?" or pretend that they think you are the *ex* pair when they arrive for their access weekends. Several rejected stepmothers of my acquaintance would say it is.

To survive as a stepmother you must never assume that when your stepchildren are having a bad time it is all your fault. The only reason you do assume this is that stepmothers have traditionally had a bad press.

Take comfort from an illuminating essay on stepmothers by the American writer, Erma Bombeck. Mrs Bombeck discloses that Snow White was a spaced-out, macramé-making hippy who drove her poor stepmother to

asking, "Mirror, mirror, on the wall, what must I do to survive it all?" The mirror answered: "Drink!"

Similarly, Cinderella suffered from an over-active imagination and Hansel and Gretel ran away on purpose so that their stepmother would get life imprisonment for having supposedly murdered them.

I think Dr Spock should be told he's doing perfectly fine but perhaps his stepdaughter has a little room for improvement.

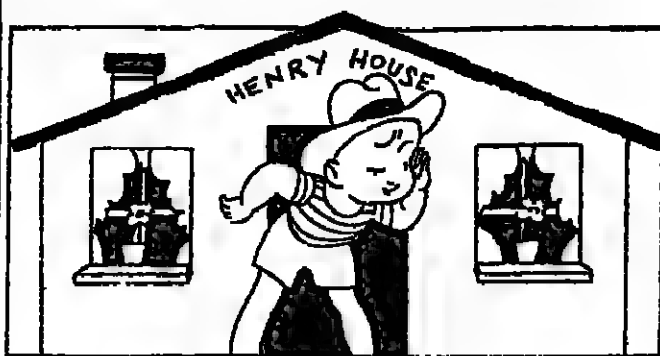
Mr Nicholas Freeman, leader of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea Council, suffers dreadfully from tunnel vision. It makes him see his borough's entire population only as ratepayers.

Although I have paid my rates (currently £630 pa) to that council for many years, Mr Freeman's refusal to recognize me as a woman of many fascinating parts is very offensive.

As a ratepayer, I am supposed to feel grateful that Mr Freeman has knocked down the charming Old Town Hall in Kensington High Street and sold the site for £5.3m.

Well, as a human being I am upset by this transaction. I don't want the High Street turned into a mini-Croydon.

In boasting about the sale of the town hall site, Mr Freeman reminds me of the café owner who proudly listed on his menu "Salmon salad (best red fished)".



## Wendy doesn't live here any more

Just the other day I learnt that the term Wendy House is now taboo in some sexually egalitarian districts of London. I don't know whether this is a direct result of town hall policy or just another trickle-down effect of the GLC's New Enlightenment.

Whatever the case, the fact that those womb-like artifacts of paint wood which ape the parental setting are being referred to more and more as play units, play areas and play houses.

It is, of course, a patchy revolution; it may have gained ascendancy in Lambeth and Islington, but in W8 a Wendy House is still a Wendy House and will probably remain so until the cows come home or until mummies cease to perambulate the young of others in Kensington Gardens—which ever is the later.

I am not about to knock the dull rhetoric of equality. It is always a shame when an apparently innocent term gets prized loose from the vocabulary because it no longer fits the spirit of the day, just as it was a shame when Popesgrove, Perivale, Temple Bar and the rest were lost in the digital offensive of STD.

None the less, who can honestly say that Wendy House is *not* a sexist term, or that its usage does *not*, through a very overt linking of two words, stamp the home with a female identity? Where are the Harry House, the Hughie House and the Henry House? Well, nowhere near the drawing board.

As one who has great doubts about where he stands in the nature versus nurture debate, I am intrigued by a book published today by Sara Stein, the American author of the much praised *Open Family* books. *Girls and Boys* subtitled *The Limits of Non-Sexist Child-rearing*, addresses itself to precisely these questions (what might be termed the Wendy House area). Indeed, one of its achievements is to demonstrate that what may appear to be mere tokenism is often crucial to children's own perceptions of their coming roles long before the dawning of verbal comprehension.

I expect that Sara Stein would applaud the practice, already established in Lambeth, of ensuring that the playhouse contains a decent number of traditionally male articles, even

though the very first sentence in the book has the following bleak message: "The bold experiment to raise non-sexist children is not working".

The ensuing 200 pages attempt to explain, under a number of headings, why this should be so. To say it is a bold stab would be uselessly patronizing, for I know so little of child theory—as do most parents—that I can hardly sit in judgment over someone so well versed in the trade.

It is certainly a very even-handed book, with sympathetic approaches both to the traditionalist "Boys will be boys" school and to revisionary feminism. As with so much writing about children, there is, for every passage of clarity an equally impenetrable one (somehow not always the author's fault).

It could be argued that this is a good case of the form suiting the content: in Sara Stein's hands, the ultimate contradiction at the heart of her subject—namely that parents can apparently do absolutely everything and less than nothing about their children—shines through with a blinding new dazzle.

I have the impression that she would have liked to find herself in the nurturer camp, but is prevented from keeping both feet there by the fruits of her researches. Not so much *vive la différence* as *regardes les différences*.

It is hard to say whether the author is more Benjamin Spock than Nancy Friday. There is the occasional strong overtones of the latter, and it would not be surprising if *Girls and Boys* were to create a minor media stir—as did *My Mother Myself*.

I do find favour with this example: "If we are looking for true liberation from both the competitiveness of masculinity and the compliance of femininity, we are most likely to find it in an elderly couple. These changes are brought about by aging, not by society."

I always suspected that the problems of child-rearing would take a lifetime to solve, and now I know.

Alan Franks

*Girls and Boys* by Sara Stein is published today by Chatto & Windus (£9.95).

# Women with designs on the future

The male world of architecture is getting the feminine touch

The Royal Institute of British Architects took 97 years to admit its first woman as a full member—Gillian Harrison, in 1931.

Tomorrow the 150-year-old institute opens its first exhibition of British women architects at work.

The exhibition, which runs until August 10, includes models, drawings and photographs of everything, from courthouses, wine bars and flats to converted barns and a bath tub.

Shaking off its sexist slumber, the lumbering giant of the architectural establishment has woken up at last to the potential women can bring to the profession. Therefore, a central aim of the exhibition is to promote architecture as a career for girls, says the institute.

The institute is still reeling from a broadside by the Prince of Wales and needs to polish its tarnished image. The Prince called London skyscrapers "giant glass stumps" and the proposed extension to the National Gallery "a monstrous carbuncle". What next?

A transfusion of female blood into the palsied profession could restore its health. At present women represent just 7.1 per cent of all architects, compared with 11.4 per cent of barristers and 17.6 per cent of family doctors.

Peter Gibbs-Kennet, director of the institute's education department, wants half the students at Britain's 36 schools of architecture to be women.

The current figure is just over one fifth. The change in attitude can also be seen in the way the institute is busily removing what it admits is a male bias in its careers literature. Mr Gibbs-Kennet is "sweating through the pamphlets" eliminating male-only pronouns and pictures.

Yet, despite the image of a male-dominated profession, women architects have proved remarkably resilient and successful.

Although there are no women architects to compete with household names such as Wren, Nash or Lutyens, women are increasingly making their mark in contemporary design.

In 1932 Elizabeth Scott designed the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre in Stratford-upon-Avon, and more recently women have been involved in the planning of the award-winning Burrell Gallery in Glasgow.

Furthermore, in the recent international Hongkong Peak competition, a woman, Zaha Hadid, beat 538 architects to take the prize.

One of the institute's outstanding members is Mrs Charlotte Baden-Powell—she acquired the famous name by being married at one time to a great-nephew of the founder of the Scout movement.

Since 1963 she has headed Baden-Powell Architects, of Bath and London, specializing in the rehabilitation of old buildings. She welcomes the exhibition as a good and timely idea, and, of course, her work figures in it.

Charlotte Baden-Powell divides her time between clients in Bath and London. When in town she lives in Chelsea, in an early Victorian terrace house with a bright red front door.

This dynamic woman in her late forties with short grey curly hair and wearing black slacks, ushers me in.

We clamber past her sons' racing bikes in the narrow hallway and enter a modernized open-plan living-room-cum-dining-room-cum-work-room, with workbench and an armory of tools. She knocked down the walls, put in a glass-roofed extension and flooded the place with light from the park outside.



The feminine touch: Charlotte Baden-Powell believes being a woman is an advantage, while Avril Jones says: 'We can design more than kitchens'

## The profession should be a top draw

Avril Jones, 23, has a persuasive argument for why more women should become architects. "After all, 50 per cent of the people using buildings are women and only 7 per cent of the designers are", she says.

Mrs Jones recently qualified from Bristol University's new degree school of architecture. She is committed to community projects and works on playgrounds and city farms in Bristol.

"Women can design more than just kitchens," she said. "They were involved in the design of the Thames

Barrier, the extension to Terminal 4 at Heathrow and the Open University."

Mrs Jones plays an active part in the institute's activities and occasionally lectures to sixth-formers. She insists that the way to change is from within the institute, putting pressure on the establishment.

"RIBA's career service is inadequate," she said, "and there's still a male bias in the careers literature, which alienates girls. But architecture is a very worthwhile career for a woman."

architects are women and assuming there are as many good designers among women as men, then more good women could raise the standard as there would be less fewer bad men.

But, of course, the old taboos of men and maths putting women off architecture are pure myth. In fact, being a woman is an enormous advantage.

The natural antagonism between builders and architects doesn't apply to women because it goes against the grain to be rude to a woman. And once a builder sees that you know what you're talking about he wants to please you.

"Women may be better equipped to persuade, discuss and encourage before finally coming to the crunch. It's a method which generally works. A lot of men expect themselves to have all the answers and don't ask builders, surveyors and engineers for their opinions. I frequently do."

So much for the scourge of men. Equally she poo-poops maths, as she stroked her Siamese cat, Pushkin.



Working together: The Matrix women.

"The moment structures get at all difficult you call in a structural engineer," she explains.

The institute confirms that maths is no longer an absolute requirement.

Mrs Baden-Powell was 17½ when she started her studies at the Architectural Association. Her father was a mechanical engineer, her mother an interior decorator in London, but the source of her inspiration was her nanny's brother.

He was an architect and she fell in love with the idea of drawing designs for houses and interiors.

She recalls: "At the AA I was the only woman to pass out of a class of 45 students. When I first arrived some of the male students told me I was only there to find a husband and was taking the place a man should have. 'You'll never qualify', they said."

The taunt offended her but also spurred her on as a challenge throughout her highly successful career.

If more women enter the profession, will they bring

different insights and perceptions apart from a tendency to consensus rather than conflict?

"No!" cries Mrs Baden-Powell, dropping the cat. "I passionately believe that there are good and bad designers, full stop. Sex has nothing to do with it. The only difference between men and women architects is that men are colour blind and women aren't."

According to the Institute of Ophthalmology, 8 per cent of men suffer from "defective colour vision", the commonest confusion arising between yellow and green and yellow and red. Considerably fewer than 1 per cent of women have the defect.

Not all women architects wanted to show their work at the exhibition. Matrix, a feminist design cooperative in north London, will not be represented as its members do not see producing designs as consumer goods as a priority. And they claim, the context of the exhibition was not made clear to them.

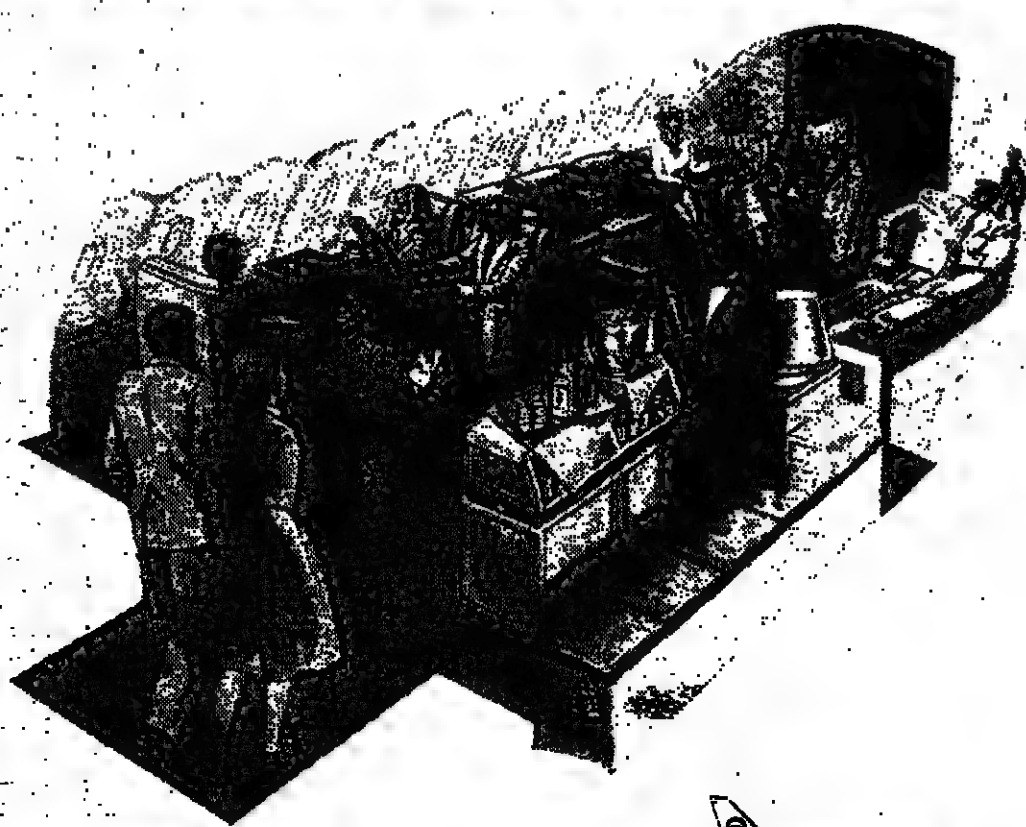
The Matrix people also disagree with Mrs Baden-Powell about the contribution women can make to architecture. For their part they passionately believe women can bring new insights and a new philosophy into play. The cooperative's 10 members—all between late twenties and late thirties—work for women's groups in the public sector.

Cath Taylor, a tall woman topped by a Mohican coiffure said: "Male designers are blind to women's facilities outside the home—women's centres, children's centres and facilities for children and push-chairs in buildings like canteens and restaurants, for example."

Paul Nathanson

Women Architects—Their work is at the Royal Institute of British Architects, 66 Portland Place, London WC1.

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## PARIS DIARY

John P. Harris

### Prisoners of gender

The dear old Académie Française is having trouble with the Minister of Women's Rights, Mme Yvette Roudy. She recently set up a Terminological Commission, whose job it is to make helpful suggestions about job-names and so forth. The Academy has just uttered a warning broadcast, or squeal, against such tampering with the language.

This is no light affair. English difficulties with barpersons, Madam Chairman and what you call the Mayor's married partner when the Mayor is a lady - these are mere flea-bites in comparison.

But let us first hear the Academy. It says, with a thin veneer of reason, that the words masculine and feminine, when used for genders, do not mean masculine and feminine at all. *Tous les hommes sont mortels*, as in "All men are mortal" refers to the whole human race. The word *ministère*, grammatically masculine, goes for Mme Roudy, just as "the Prime Minister" means Mrs Thatcher. No need, they say, for feminization of words like *ministère*, *docteur*, *chef*, *sergent* and the rest. They then make a bold suggestion. Away with the terms masculine and feminine for naming genders of nouns. Call them "marked" and "unmarked". The unmarked gender, masculine to you and me, covers both sexes; the marked gender is limited to females. Indicate sexual segregation: ladies only. *Les hommes* are men and women; *Les femmes* are not.

Now this will not do. Never mind about the problem of victims, recruits and persons, who are feminine in gender but of both sexes (so that here it is the feminine that is "unmarked") - *une victime*, *un recrue* and *une personne* can be 100 per cent he-man. No, we are up against intractable logic meeting immovable system.

#### Why must 'le' have all the leverage?

And here, let us not be modest about it, English wins hands down. In French, once you have used a noun you have to follow suit, gender-wise, absolutely rigorously, until you can manage to play a different noun-trump. If English were like French, our prime minister would have to be he and him; we would have to talk of his hair-style and his husband... until we could introduce a term like "the kind lady" - which, being feminine, would get us back on the rails with "she" etc. Thus, when (on those complicated forms the French love) I have to refer to my wife as *mon conjoint* (my married partner) she has to be *il* until further notice; and if I get knocked down on the Champs Elysées I shall be *une victime*, and *elle, elle, elle*, with adjectives in the feminine, until they get around to *le pauvre Anglais*, which will let me be *il*.

And do the French really think that the masculine is *non-marché* and means she or he? Of course not. Come off it, Academy. General de Gaulle began his famous televised exhortations with "*Francisques Français!*" No nonsense with him about Francis doing for both sexes - he gave the Francisques their vote.

The Académie system is not clean. Every British schoolchild knows that French is a macho language, and uptight about it too. When my short-trousered comrades and I, down in the prep-school jungle, were told that a thousand girls plus *me* were *ils* not *elles*, there were cries of "Ooh airt! Not fair!" Masculine for half and half, or perhaps six girls to four boys, we could accept, but one yawning male baby to a train-load of Mae Wests and Marlene Dietrichs, no.

I have deep friendly feelings for France and the French, especially certain *Francisques*, and it gives me great pleasure to put forward a modest and equitable proposal to relieve their troubles. The masculine gender has had a long innings. It is time to let the other side have a turn. So: make the feminine the normal gender. Give the feminine form first for adjectives in dictionaries. Not *il y a, il pleut* etc., but *elle y a...*

The basic undifferentiated form of the past participle will of course be the feminine, and we men will have to do the thinking. When the members of the Academy have Mme Yourcenar among them, they will be *elles*. What was sauce for the goose... All doctors will be *doctresses*.

No need to mangle the existing books. Make the change starting in the year 2000. Change back again in 2100, and so on - an innings per century.

I hope Mme Roudy and the Terminological Commission read *The Times*.

BARRY FANTONI



"Of course I'm right behind her, but that's not to say I'm not right behind him"

# The wrong rate for the jobs

by Bryan Gould

The first casualty of what has all the hallmarks of a good, old-fashioned sterling crisis will be the already fragile confidence in the Government's economic strategy. As in so many other matters, the Government's claim to have brought about fundamental change is now shown to be hollow. Until now, many have believed government assurances that the sacrifices - lost jobs, the record insolvencies, cuts in public services - have been worthwhile because sustainable growth is at last within our grasp. But if things are now going to get worse again and another round of sacrifices is required - this time from a starting point where more than three million people are already out of work - the Government will suffer a damaging and deserved backlash from those who now see that their faith was misplaced.

The rise of 2.75 per cent in interest rates means that any hope of an improvement in the economy has been extinguished. Unemployment will continue its long climb, at a faster pace. Industrial investment will be choked off. Output will fall. The trade balance in manufactures will worsen. A further round of public spending cuts is a real prospect.

Most significantly, the rise in interest rates undermines the only real achievement

the Government can claim - the fall in inflation. What many of us have long suspected - that this lone success was a suppression, rather than an eradication, of inflation - is now shown to be true.

Like so many of its predecessors, the present government has been prepared to face with equanimity almost any development, however bad - except a collapse of the currency.

Other countries have also seen their currencies fall against an over-valued dollar but have responded with much more common sense. They have refused to be trapped, as our government has been, into jeopardizing recovery by following United States rates upwards. The Germans, for instance, have kept their interest rates low (about 6 per cent below US rates) and let the exchange rate take the strain. As a result they have preserved their chances of pursuing recovery. Indeed, their industry will benefit from the renewed competitiveness produced by a lower exchange rate.

As a result, we now look certain to be the last remaining centre of rapidly rising unemployment. The Americans have created four million jobs in 15 months. The average unemployment in countries like Austria, Sweden, Switzerland and Norway is

about 3 per cent. Only we seem intent on pursuing policies which mean that unemployment must rise.

Faced with a dilemma of its own creation, the Government has got itself imprinted on the wrong horn. Despite the dramatic slide against the dollar, the pound remains overvalued in relation to the currencies of many of our most important competitors.

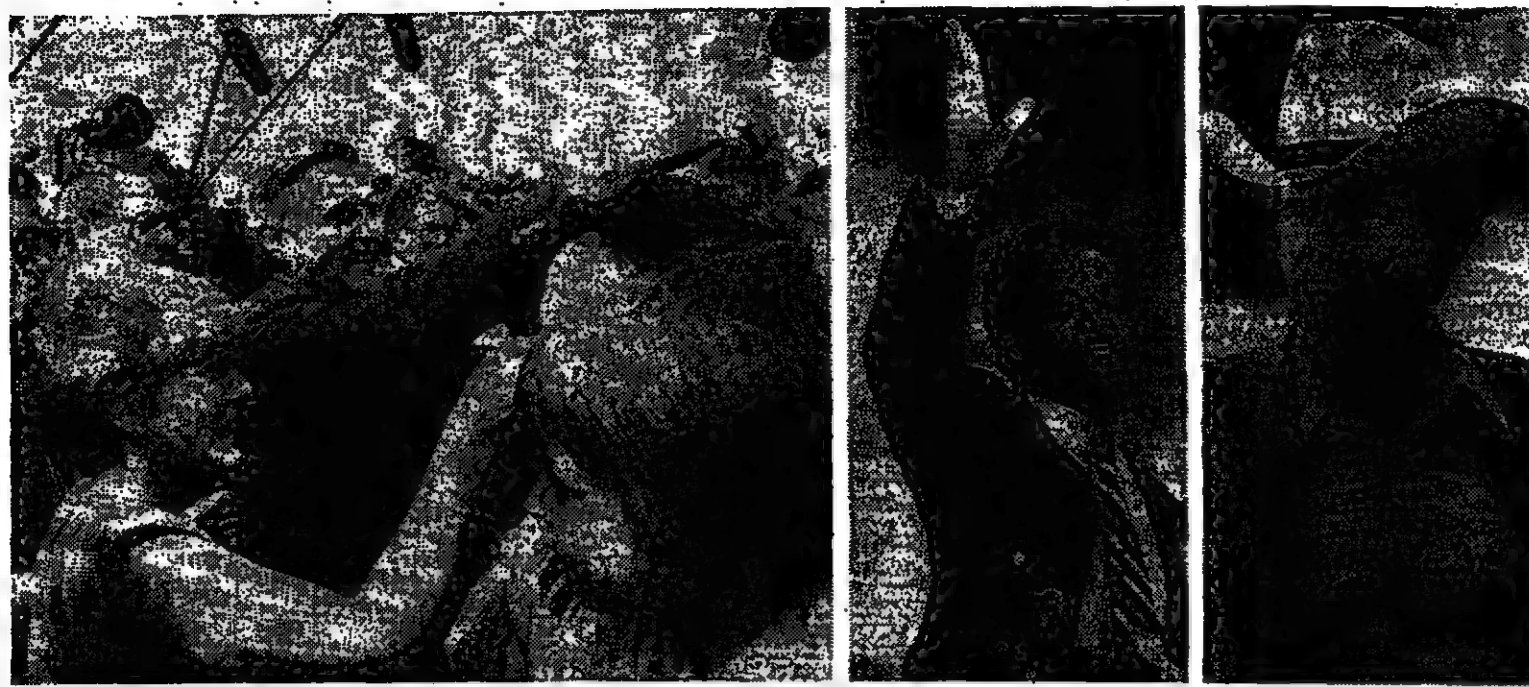
A further fall against EEC currencies (against which the pound has appreciated by 6 per cent since the first quarter of 1983) would be beneficial at a time when the competitiveness of British industry is again declining.

The pound is admittedly now too low against a grossly over-valued dollar. It is understandable that many casual observers should be misled by the dollar rate, but why has the Government suddenly taken fright? If it could look on unconcernedly as the pound fell steadily from \$2.40 to \$1.40 - a fall of 42.5 per cent - what was so threatening about the further marginal, probably temporary, fall to \$1.30?

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The author, MP for Dagenham, is Labour spokesman on trade.

### Nicholas Ashford previews the Democratic convention, starting today



Mondale with running mate Geraldine Ferraro, and nomination also-rans Jackson and Hart: all they have in common is abhorrence of Reagan - who must be beaten if the old divisions are not to reappear

## The fragile unity that will not survive defeat

San Francisco When workmen turned on the TV lamps for the first trial run at the underground Moscone Centre in San Francisco, site of this week's Democratic national convention, the temperature quickly soared to over 90 degrees Fahrenheit.

The organizers are confident that by the time the 30,000-plus delegates, alternates, guests, journalists and hangers-on take their seats at this afternoon's opening session, the heating problem will have been sorted out. Mr Walter Mondale's aides are equally confident that they have managed to cool the potential disputes which at one stage threatened to turn the convention into a slanging match.

They hope that Mr Mondale, having made a fragile peace with his presidential rivals, Senator Gary Hart and the Rev Jesse Jackson, and having inspired delegates by his choice of Mrs Geraldine Ferraro as his running mate, will be able to use the convention's prime-time TV coverage to project himself as the strong and popular leader of a united party.

Nothing has been left to chance. Mondale's campaign managers are undertaking a massive operation to ensure that the convention produces no unpleasant surprises for a man who has devoted the past three years to the single-minded pursuit of the party's presidential nomination.

Hundreds of Mondale-sponsored "delegate trackers", "cluster leaders" and "whips" - supported by a \$150,000 telephone system and more than 200 walkie-talkies, will be strategically located around the Moscone Centre to make sure that key votes go his way.

All of the 3,933 delegates have been presented with "Mondale-for-President" tote bags on arrival in San Francisco. Mondale aides have also been assigned to all major TV networks so they can be instantly available for "improvisation" interviews and to deal with the rumours which inevitably abound at convention time.

Such elaborate and costly precautions - the Mondale campaign has earmarked \$400,000 for the convention - would seem unnecessary given the apparent strength of Mondale's position. Although Hart

intends to keep his challenge alive until the final vote, the convention arithmetic is now heavily against him and not even his most loyal supporters expect a last-minute swing in his favour. The worst Jackson can do is to cause a little turbulence during the platform debates.

But Mondale has always been a cautious man and, as the sacking of Charles Manatt as party chairman on the eve of the opening demonstration, conventions invariably produce unexpected crises which can rebound embarrassingly on the front-runner.

Explaining Mondale's strategy at an eve-of-convention press conference, Tom Donilon, the 29-year-old operations manager and delegate counter, said: "The only way you can make sure the convention runs smoothly and the Democrats look like they have their act together is to have a superb organization."

"That's what we intend to do. The whole Democratic Party is in one building for four days, and we intend to do our politics correctly."

Despite Mondale's best laid plans, the convention is unlikely to present a picture of total harmony. Floor debates are scheduled on five resolutions, four of them sponsored by supporters of the mercurial Jackson.

One opposes any first-use of nuclear weapons while another favours the most contentious of them all: advocates "substantial real reductions in military spending over the next five years."

The Democrats want to cap military spending, but they don't want to be in a position of being accused by President Reagan of weakening America's defences.

A third Jackson resolution would put the party back on record in

support of goals and timetables for implementing affirmative action programmes. The fourth seeks a commitment to abolish runoff "second primaries", which Jackson has argued discriminate against blacks in 10 southern states. This will be strongly resisted by conservative white southern Democrats.

The fifth resolution, sponsored by the Hart camp, calls for a commitment to "the selective judicious use of American military power" around the world. Hart and Mondale aides have held lengthy talks to decide whether it will make special reference to the Gulf.

Many of the other issues which at one stage threatened to disrupt proceedings have been shelved. Hart has dropped his credentials challenge to some 600 Mondale delegates who, he said, were "tainted" because of the way their election had been funded. Jackson has said he will not press complaints about delegate selection rules under which he obtained only 10 per cent of the convention delegates even though he won 20 per cent of the popular vote during the primary campaign.

However, no matter how unified and cohesive the Democrats manage to appear by the time the gavel falls for the last time on Thursday evening, it is unlikely they will have resolved a fundamental question which is troubling many younger members. How should the party shape up to the challenges of the last decade and a half of the twentieth century?

The unity which they are striving to maintain this week essentially comes from their mutual abhorrence of President Reagan. But the party needs more than a shared sense of anti-Reaganism if it is to regain the White House, either this year or in 1988.

The Democrats have won only

one of the last four presidential elections, and that was in the aftermath of the Watergate scandal when Jimmy Carter managed to unseat a stop-gap Republican, Gerald Ford.

If they fail to win the White House this time a lot of younger Democrats will be asking how the largest party in the US (43 per cent of registered voters are Democrats compared with only 30 per cent Republicans) with a large majority in the House and control of 35 of the nation's 50 state houses, manages to keep losing elections?

This question surfaced during the primary campaign battle between Mondale and Hart. Mondale was the representative of the old "New Dealers" and looked for his support to the party's traditional constituencies - the elderly, the poor and minorities. Hart tried to present himself as the candidate of "new ideas" and sought, with considerable success, to attract the backing of the post-Vietnam generation, especially the so-called Yuppies (young urban professionals), for whom the Democratic Party had become the party of the past.

As it turned out, the battle for the Democratic nomination had more to do with demography and tactics than ideology or philosophy. However, the Mondale-Hart duel did reveal that an increasing number of Democrats were grasping for a fresh identity and a modern agenda.

This will not emerge in San Francisco this week. The "old guard" remain firmly in the saddle. The key figures at the convention - Mondale, Ferraro, Governor Mario Cuomo of New York, who will make the keynote speech today, and Bert Lance, Mondale's new campaign chairman, are all New Dealers at heart.

If the Democrats regain the White House in November, the "old guard" will be able to claim that traditional Democratic ideals are still relevant in the mid-1980s. But if the party suffers another defeat - and at present Mondale's chances of beating Reagan are not rated high - the party's papering over of cracks will be quickly rent asunder. The 1988 convention could prove to be a lot less harmonious than this week's session promises to be.

# Why the unions can lord it no longer

by David Cohen

At times like these, you may find it instructive, wincing only a little, to recall Disraeli's prophecy in 1875, that his two trade union Acts (which in effect legalized both strikes and picketing) "will gain and retain for the Conservatives the lasting affection of the working classes". It all seems a far cry from Birmingham and Orgreave. In fact, it demands quite an effort of the imagination to remember that the 1875 Acts, like the Liberal Act of 1906, were designed to avoid precisely that sort of clash by encouraging "responsible trade unionism".

By granting precious legal privileges to the trade unions, governments hoped to help them learn the habits of civility. The unions would "put their own house in order" and "fulfil their side of the bargain". Trade unions behaved badly only because the existing laws did not fairly accommodate their interests. If they were "bloody aristocrats of industry" - to quote William Thompson, the so-called founder of scientific socialism - it was because they had no legitimate alternative to brute force, whether in dealing with employers or with non-unionists or even their own dissenting members.

It was a rum argument to start with, that people would become more, not less, responsible for their actions if they were no longer expected to abide by the law. But once the privileges had been granted, the argument had to shift. Some trade unions might still be behaving badly, it was now argued, but they would behave infinitely worse if their legal privileges were removed. Indeed, any government which attempted to do the removing might well find that it was unable to govern at all. Proof of this was said to be given by Harold Wilson's surrender to the unions over Sir William Rees-Mogg's wowed us with *The Glory of the Garden*; the eventual failure of Mr Heath's Industrial Relations Act was thought to convey the same message to footloose governments.

Yet here and now, in July 1984, both the fears and the hopes aroused by trade union reform seem misplaced or exaggerated. The "bloody aristocrats" behave just as badly as they did in 1974, or indeed in 1884; they still intimidate, pervert and cheat to get their way; they still bash anyone who disagrees with them; they still remain indifferent to the law, going to the courts only to secure minor points of tactical advantage.

Yet outside the old industries - the mines, the docks and the railways - public attitudes are very different. The pseudo-morality that trade union loyalty is the highest of all causes and comes a long way before obedience to the law, has

been generally rejected. And the appetite for legal reform of the trade unions is still hearty enough. People, in fact, tend to be impatient about the details: if mass picketing is not yet actually a crime, then it should be made one. If strike ballots are not postal, then they ought to be. Why aren't strikes banned in essential services?

While the carnivores snarl and bite, the more herbivorous trade unions are negotiating no-strike agreements with new employers. And the employers are using the Prior and Tebbit Acts to sue in the courts and, when they win, the unions are paying up.

The political momentum is clear enough, both from the vigour with which the SDP urges the beating up of the current trade union Bill and from the half-hearted way in which the Labour Party argues against it. It is obvious that most people want the trade unions - including their own trade union - to be part of normal life. And more and more people are uneasy about the double standard involved in belonging to an organization which asserts the right to bully and lie in a way they would consider shocking in their private lives. Marxists believe that militant trade unions magnify and radicalize their more timid brethren. But for every young miner who thrills to Mr Scargill, there are dozens of their contemporaries in other unions who are repelled and alienated. The sight of the carnivores' dripping fangs only makes more vegetarians.

Mr Scargill must lose and be seen to lose. Yet the miners must be treated fairly - as fairly as the NUM would have been treated if the NUM had defended its members' interests in a proper fashion. There is no contradiction between those two statements. Indeed, a defeat for Mr Scargill would be a victory for the modern trade union movement - for once rightly described as a movement, since it is moving, slowly but inexorably, towards the reintegration of the trade unions into civil society.

What the trade union Acts of 1875 and 1906 and 1974 did was repeatedly to thrust the trade unions outside normal life and to invite them all to behave like bloody aristocrats - all privilege and no responsibility. Immunity from the law led naturally to the illusion of immunity from reality too. It was a disastrous wrong turning in British politics, and we have three million people out of work to show for it.

I do not suggest that everyone yet understands just how much militant, wrecking trade unionism has damaged employment. But most people do now recognize the social and moral consequences of elevating trade unionism not only above the law but also above what Orwell would have called "common decency". And that is a start.

Anne Sofer

## Could anyone cap Jenkin?

Some months ago, in one of those sessions of frank gossip that make political life bearable, a Conservative colleague at County Hall confided his view that this government was finished. Much though it was what I wanted to hear, I couldn't believe he was serious. The Tories were riding high in the polls, the second Thatcher administration had barely begun, and all the banana skins looked like avoidable, though unsightly, litter.

But he persisted. Just look at the catalogue of disasters, he said, and began to spell them out. The list needed the fingers of both hands and consisted, entirely of names of members of the Cabinet, starting with Leon Brittan and ending with Cecil Parkinson (it was that long ago). He shook his head sadly like a country vet confirming the fatal nature of an accident to a celebrated hunter.

It seems far more plausible now than it did then, but what interests me particularly both in the original comment and in the similar comments growing in intensity over the past month is that so many of them see the Government's failures in terms of the public performance of its ministers rather than the good sense or success of its policies. The play, it seems, has already been agreed on and must go on. The only discussable variables are the actors. It is almost as if - dare one suggest it? - the playwright is manipulating the reviewers to make sure they slate the actors rather than the script.

The most obvious victim of this process at present is Patrick Jenkin. To be honest, he has not given a sparkling performance. But the question nobody seems to be asking is this: given the Conservative manifesto commitments and the mess of local government finance he better? If Mrs Thatcher's preferred option for the paving Bill - extending the life of the present GLC and metropolitan county administrations - had been adopted in the first place, would not all have gone smoothly? Would not all those posters about democracy still have been as easily moved as Eurymachus? Would another Environment Secretary have been able to dispose of all the functions of the GLC more expeditiously? Or prevent the clamour of the arts and dismemberment lobbies, the churches and the voluntary sector?

And what about rate-capping? This is another manifesto commitment which, it was thought, would bring the Government considerable popularity. Whatever the local government constitutionalists might say, the ordinary ratepayer, it was alleged, would press the reduced rate-slip to his heart and bless Mrs

Thatcher's name. Yet when it appears that the Government is in the fortunate position of being able to offer this special bonus to voters in the Portsmouth South by-election, what happens? The supposed vote-winner is hidden away with some embarrassment and confessed to only in a hazy manner when a leak has made disclosure inevitable. Was it Mr Jenkin's fault that electoral gold had turned to dross, or was it the fault of whoever it was who imagined dross was gold in the first place?

And so we come to Liverpool. This is seen as Mr Jenkin's most serious blunder to date. Presented as it was by Derek Hatton, the council's deputy leader, as a Government climb-down, it has knocked many Tories almost insensible with rage and disbelief.

Mr Jenkin disputes that there has been any surrender, and the precise facts and figures of the deal have not yet been made fully public and subject to analysis. But here lies the problem. Local government finance is by now so abstruse that very few people in the country understand it. It is governed by mechanism - known as the block grant - which can almost be guaranteed to ensure that decisions have results wholly disproportionate, and in some cases the opposite, to what is intended. For instance, at a particular point on a particular graph, any local council can find that for every pound it wants to spend it has to raise £5 from the ratepayer. Or it can find that by keeping spending below what the Government thinks it should be, it can be penalized for overspending. The former trap is the one in which Liverpool found itself, and the latter the position of many of the Tory shires.

This ridiculous system is made worse by the fact that it can be discussed only in its own private vocabulary of disregards, targets and thresholds. Consequently, Mr Jenkin will never be able to explain, in language that the ordinary person can understand, how it is that he has not given in to Liverpool. But he is almost certainly, remis in not anticipating the political capital the Liverpool councillors would make out of the situation, the system itself is not his creation, but that of his predecessor, Michael Heseltine.

It is rumoured that Mr Jenkin will not survive an autumn purge. Certainly he will play the part of scapegoat with more conviction than he does his present role. But what favourite son or daughter of the Prime Minister will be asked to take on the job of carrying out Conservative policy on local government? No sane politician would touch it with a barge pole.

The author is SDP member of the GLC/ILEA for St Pancras North.

## When the community could not care less

Psychiatry has its fashions. In the 1970s, community care was seen as an excellent model but today an increasing number of psychiatrists and social workers are asking just how much care patients actually manage to get "in the community".

A conference starting today organized by the Richmond Fellowship, which runs hostels all over Britain for mental patients, reflects growing anxiety about this issue.

Tony is a 38-year-old schizophrenic. Since he left hospital two years ago, he has been living alone in a room near Croydon. He has few friends. Once a month, he goes to the doctor to get his injection of a maintenance drug, Maudesite, which wards off the worst symptoms. In the week before a new injection is due, Tony sometimes becomes rather confused. Apart from that one visit to his GP, Tony never sees a doctor or a social worker. He survives in the community but not thanks to the community.

There seemed to be excellent medical and economic reasons in the 1970s for pushing patients out of hospitals and into the community.

Research suggested that anyone who stayed long in hospital became dependent and frightened of leaving. It was not just radical anti-psychiatrists like R. D. Laing who believed it was wrong to shut mental patients away.

Governments saw savings. Victorian psychiatric hospitals were expensive to run. From the mid-1970s on, all secretaries of state at the DHSS claimed to be committed to more care outside hospitals.

Despite this commitment, services in the community have not become adequate enough to keep out of hospital all those who do not need to go in. A recent study by Dr Robin McCreadie and colleagues at the Crichton Royal Hospital looked at chronic in-patients in 15 Scottish hospitals. Some 38 per cent of them would not need to enter hospital if there were adequate hostels, group homes and sheltered lodgings. The study concluded that "little progress has been made in the past ten years."

In England, there is no evidence that the situation is better. Some health authorities and social services

have put patients out of hospitals and into bed and breakfast houses. A few southern coastal resorts, like Margate and Worthing, now house considerable numbers of ex-patients whose day-care centre is, often, the local Wimpy Bar where no "caring professionals" are to be found.

Ely Jansen, the founder of the Richmond Fellowship, is worried by the "increasing divergence between official policy and statements of intent made by governments." Hospitals are run down without alternatives being built up. "No one denies the need for better facilities within the community," she says, "however, proposals for advance most declarations that funding is impossible." She also finds that attitudes in the community continue to be rejecting.

Central to the whole notion of "community care" is that patients ought to be accepted by the rest of us in the outside world. The evidence, both in this country and in America, is that public attitudes remain doggedly hostile. Alexander Leighton, who was professor of social psychiatry at Harvard, published a

massive indictment of what he labelled "communitism" after a study of some Canadian experiments. Doctors and social workers who had high hopes for integrating patients often deluded themselves and were "as a consequence let down in their expectations."

Precisely because psychiatry is prey to fashions, there are those who argue that the whole notion of community care has now gone too far. Conservative psychiatrists are far more sceptical than their liberal counterparts in one town have been closed down and it requires the signatures of two doctors and of the local mayor to get anyone hospitalized.

The problems of community care are not good reason to cram patients back into hospitals. McCreadie's study shows clearly the need for better organization of services and the money to do it. It also requires some campaigning to get people to accept that.

David Cohen

The author is the editor of *Psychology News*.





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## STATE OF EMERGENCY

The miners' strike, on which Mrs Thatcher has firmly and correctly placed the principal blame for the current financial malaise and the consequent rise in interest rates, is the product and responsibility of one man. If Mr Arthur Scargill had not been in the position which has enabled him to manipulate the miners' groundless fears of unemployment to promote the class war he openly proclaims, the strike would probably not have started and would almost certainly have been settled by now. Just as, by his own admission, he used the miners' strike of 1972 when he was also (in his own words) "fighting a government" in his class war, though from a more junior position, so today he is using the same methods as leader of the National Union of Mineworkers, acting for the forces of the anti-democratic left, to bring down this Government, or at least destroy the policies on which it was elected.

The ruthless rejection of reason and compromise which is Mr Scargill's principal characteristic is also his principal strength. It makes it virtually impossible for people inhabiting the rational world of give-and-take negotiations to deal with him. Yet his political ruthlessness is also his potentially greatest weakness. For Mr Scargill has left nobody in any doubt that his struggle is against the Constitution which frightens many who might be his allies in a more normal industrial dispute.

Thus though responsible Labour leaders have been timorous of condemning Mr Scargill outright, they have for the most part feared even more to support him, since they know that the Labour Party's survival as a serious claimant to political power depends on its being recognized as a constitutional party which cannot countenance the destruction of a legitimate government by unconstitutional means. On Saturday, however, at the Durham miners' gala, Mr Neil Kinnock came perilously and disgracefully near to abandoning that position when he falsely described the dispute as "a fight in the mining communities for survival" and proclaimed that Mrs Thatcher must not be allowed to "let this industry and the coal communities rot". Those in the Labour Party who still have regard to the traditions which Attlee bequeathed them must surely be dismayed to hear their leader endorse Mr Scargill's campaign in the terms Mr Kinnock used this weekend.

More to the point, however, fear of Mr Scargill's attack on elected parliamentary government is what has so far deprived him of the trade union allies he has sought. Of course, it is in large part for the protection of their own jobs that the steel men have resisted his attacks on their industry, but there is also no doubt that they are disinclined to support the political purposes behind Mr Scargill's strike. That was also true, when it came to the point, of the railwaymen. Unions will push their luck when

they can, and often much too far for the economic and social well-being of the generality of their fellow citizens, but they usually know that their rank-and-file will not support any attempt to destroy the elected Government.

The story of industrial relations in Britain since the First World War has been one in which every strike which has been clearly seen as political in its motivation or its effect has failed for lack of popular support. It has been this that has so far kept Mr Scargill, relying on his little private army, in an isolated position, rejected even by a significant and courageous element in his own union.

Now, however, he seems to have hope of allies. The dispute at the major docks seems to have coalesced into something very like a total stoppage. It began because British Steel had used non-dockers to unload iron ore at Immingham, near Grimsby, after shipments had been blocked by dockers in support of the miners. The Transport and General Workers' Union now argues that what is at issue is the continued existence of the National Dock Labour Scheme, which gives protection to the dockers' employment by providing that only registered dockers may work in the ports (handling about 70 per cent of the nation's imports and exports) covered by the scheme. On the other hand, the strong suspicion has been voiced from British Steel that the original Immingham dispute (now in principle settled by agreement) which precipitated the wider stoppage was deliberately engineered to help the striking miners. The continuing stoppage over the demand for a blanket undertaking from the employers against non-registered labour seems to be fuelled with the same political purpose.

With this threat to the nation from the fifty-four major docks, the Government clearly has the duty immediately to avail itself of the powers it has under the Emergency Powers Act of 1920, and its amending Act of 1964, to deal with any threat to the life of the community as a whole. The law enables the Government to make any regulations necessary to secure the supply of food, water, fuel, energy and transport, to preserve peace, and "for any other purposes essential to the public safety and life of the community".

It is a safeguard that has had the support of, and has been used by, both Conservative and Labour Governments. "Provision must be made, in an exceptional way, to meet the life needs of the nation. I do not regard steps of that kind as breaking a strike", said J. R. Clynes, the vice-chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party when the Bill was before the House of Commons in 1920. No Government has accepted the right of trade unions to bring the country to a standstill, since to do so would be to cede to an insurrectionary force the power

that properly belongs only to an elected Government.

The state of emergency legislation exists as a protection against any action that threatens the body politic as such. Within three months of coming to power in 1945, the Attlee Government used troops to unload food in a 41 day dock strike (under the Defence of the Realm Act that was still then in being). Proclamations of states of emergency were made in the dock strikes of 1948, 1949, 1970 and 1972. In 1972, it was also used in the coal miners' strike and in March 1974 in connection with the coal and electricity strikes. States of emergency have also been proclaimed in face of rail, seamen's and transport strikes, as well, of course, as in the General Strike of 1926.

Emergency powers regulations are not to be used lightly, and of course if the regulations are made it does not follow that they will have to be used. Still, less should these powers be used as a tactical threat or weapon in the course of a dispute. They do not exist for strike-breaking but to protect the life of the community when there is an undoubted potential need to protect the citizens' health, well-being and safety. But on the other hand, no government should hesitate to use them, if such a need clearly exists, for fear of seeming to make conciliation more difficult. As Sir John Anderson observed in a debate on the London dock strike in 1949, "an emergency organization cannot be established on the basis of conciliation", and he added: "Conciliation and all that goes with it... is very important, but it should not be allowed to dominate the situation."

Of course, it is inevitable that the effectiveness of a strike is bound to be undermined if it comes to the point that the state has to use its powers to defend its legitimate authority. But if that point is reached, it is only because the instigators of the strike have taken it beyond the normal limits within which, by due bargaining and mutual agreement, a dispute can be settled before it threatens to endanger political stability.

Any government is rightly reluctant to bring into play the Civil Contingencies Unit, which is based in the Cabinet Office, to deal with a threat to the life of the people. If the Government now makes emergency regulations, it will only be because Mr Scargill's politically motivated strike has unhappily spilled over into an area where it raises the question: who rules? If, to paraphrase Lloyd George, the state were to yield to a stronger power, then the consequential logic is that that power takes over - which is the aim of the revolution in every age. That, of course, is precisely what Mr Scargill wants, but his ultimate weakness is that it is the last thing wanted by the overwhelming majority of his fellow citizens. They are democrats, and they will deny him the "historic victory" at which he aims.

## THE DOUBLE CHIN FACTOR

The defeat of Sir Robert Muldoon in the New Zealand general election removes from the world stage, at least temporarily, one of its more colourful figures. New Zealand is a small country and a long way from almost everywhere else, but Sir Robert has been its leader for nearly nine years - longer than any other democratically elected national leader now in office - and he has led it in a style calculated to attract attention.

His most memorable stand in international terms was his refusal to ban the South African rugby tour in 1981. While making clear his personal dislike of apartheid and his determination to uphold the multiracial character of New Zealand's own society, Mr Muldoon (as he then was) stuck courageously to the principle that sporting links should not be dictated by government in a free society. The flak which he encountered as a result from other Commonwealth countries, so far from intimidating him, provoked him to some very outspoken remarks at the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Melbourne, whose declaration (drafted by the Australian Liberal Prime Minister, Mr Malcolm Fraser) he dismissed as "a series of pious platitudes". "I work on the basis that strong straightforward words help all the time", he said on the

same occasion. Indeed, he was given to using expressive words like "ratbag" to describe journalists whose questions he found offensive. He was equally forthright in criticizing the European Community, for its treatment of New Zealand after British entry, and in expressing his support for Britain during the Falklands war.

He could be called "Thatcherite" in his abrasive, uncompromising political style - though with a masculine, antipodean crudity which Mrs Thatcher would hardly emulate. Surprisingly, though, in recent years he had become distinctly Heathite in the content of some of his policies. Last year he stomped the world preaching the need for a "new Bretton Woods" - a nostrum also favoured by socialist France and other debtor countries, and implying an attempt to organize collective interference - almost certainly restrictive in effect if not in intention - with world trade. At home, following in the ill-starred footsteps of his neighbour Mr Fraser, he has been struggling to master an economic crisis with price-and-wage freezes, state-imposed cuts in mortgage rates, and sweeping regulations on bank and finance company lending. Symbolically, perhaps, his familiar jutting jaw has become a double chin.

Finally, like both Mr Heath and Mr Fraser before him, he

called a snap election hoping to dramatize the conflict between himself and the trade unions. But he has fared no better than they. His party lost votes on its right to the New Zealand Party, which has grasped the free enterprise banner Sir Robert incautiously abandoned, while the Labour leader Mr Lange - like Mr Hawke in Australia last year - has been able to present himself to the middle-ground electorate as the man who will restore national unity.

Mr Lange is a moderate on most issues and his success is hardly a disaster for the West. He does face the almost invariable dilemma of new left-wing governments, being pledged to increase government spending yet owing his victory to an economic crisis caused partly by already excessive foreign debt. There is also the awkwardness for the West created by his pledge to ban nuclear-powered shipping from New Zealand waters. The fact that, owing to Sir Robert's in this case rather ill-timed obstinacy, the Anzuz Ministerial Council meets today in Wellington with a lame-duck foreign minister in the chair does not exactly facilitate the issue. But at least it provides the occasion for an early informal meeting between Mr Lange and Mr George Shultz, to look for ways of limiting the damage to an Alliance which both are anxious to maintain.

## Stay of execution at County Hall

From Mr Robert Mitchell

Sir, The action of the Government, giving me and my fellow GLC councillors an additional unneeded year of service, does not solve many problems. It avoids changing the colour of the council by ministerial dictat but the oddly named Paving Bill (the road to hell still paved with good intentions) still cancels elections before the abolition legislation is passed.

Since frantic whipping in the House of Lords only produced a majority of 20 last time, that passing cannot be assumed. Perhaps the Government may now consider the very flimsy justification it has, before proceeding.

The manifesto commitment occupied 7½ lines in a 47-page document. How many votes it affected will never be known - but certainly very few outside the areas concerned.

In the GLC area in the 1983 election 1,517,154 voted for the manifesto and 1,940,631 against. 44 per cent for, 56 per cent against. In the metropolitan counties it was 39 per cent for and 61 per cent against. In both cases in 1979 more voted Conservative when there was no such commitment.

The extent of opposition to abolition emerged in the responses to the Government's White Paper, *Streamlining the cities*. Only 91 of the organizations and persons who responded were for abolition, 882 against and 512 had no overall view. The ambiguity in presentation prevents analysis of the 512. Certainly only 91 out of 1,485 wanted outright abolition.

Public opinion polls in London are showing 65 per cent against abolition. It is insulting to assume that all Londoners are duped by Livingstone propaganda.

In fact, the continuous references to Livingstone performances and sayings are a particularly depressing part of government propaganda. The discussion is (or at least should be) about the need for a directly elected assembly to deal with strategic and Londonwide issues.

The success or failure of this or any previous abolition is totally irrelevant. You don't chop a tree down because you don't like the bird singing in it.

In view of the above, may I appeal to the Government to reconsider the possibility of a directly elected assembly to give London a voice of its own.

Yours faithfully,  
ROBERT MITCHELL,  
Greater London Council,  
Members' Lobby,  
The County Hall, SE1.  
July 6.

## Benefit system

From Mr David Piacaud

Sir, One wonders at your leader, "Who Benefits?" (July 3): it is as wayward in its accuracy as it is wayward in its attitudes.

You report that the Policy Studies Institute "gives important evidence that for several major classes of beneficiaries the level of Supplementary Benefit is probably about right". This interpretation of their evidence is strange indeed. While PSI found that the most serious hardship occurred in families with children, even among pensioners they found that one-quarter of those on Supplementary Benefit did not have a complete set of basic clothing (one change of clothes and shoes and a warm coat).

Your attitudes are, in the 1980s, frankly irrelevant. You commend "an ethic of labour and masculine responsibility" which is equally insulting to two million jobless men and to those you wish to treat as feminine dependents. You commend "casual work" as though poverty can be tackled by individual treatment.

You write that "the stigma of receiving public help" (elsewhere referred to as "handouts") is an "indigenous element in the British social make-up" without asking why this might be so or how this might be changed. Your conclusions arise "given the nature" as you put it, "of poor people". What an offensive generalisation.

Do you advocate higher benefits in the light of the hardship revealed by the studies or a simplified system in the light of the confusion recorded among both staff and claimants or a reduction in membership that has caused an explosion in the numbers dependent on supplementary benefit? No, no, and no.

Yours sincerely,  
DAVID PIACAUD,  
London School of Economics and Political Science,  
Department of Social Science and Administration,  
Houghton Street, WC2.  
July 4.

## Weekends in prison

From Mr Alfred Dubs, MP for Battersea (Labour)

Sir, Last weekend saw the release from prison of 2,000 short-term prisoners under the new parole arrangements introduced by the Home Secretary. This is a long overdue and constructive reform which is to be widely welcomed.

I wish he could be similarly congratulated for his Green Paper on intermittent custody. In his recent letter (July 4) Mr David Jenkins, Director of the Howard League, has clearly indicated some of the arguments against weekend imprisonment.

The Home Secretary is faced with a high prison population, an increasing use of custody by the

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Meeting demand for higher education

From Professor Myles Burnyeat and others

Sir, A levels are now over and many students with their parents are waiting to see whether they have got into university. Thousands of students will be disappointed by Government action.

According to the last annual report of the University Central Council on Admissions, 5,000 places were removed in the first two years of cuts up to 1983, and that at a time when applications rose by 8,000, leaving a total of 15,000 rejections. We are now approaching the end of a third year of cuts, and the number of rejections this year will be higher.

In our experience, students and parents are very seldom aware that this is why good students are being turned away. It is important that they should know, because yet further cuts are expected.

The cuts of 1981-4 and future cuts were both premised partly on expected falls in university applications which have not materialised. Indeed, according to a report in *The Times* of June 29, Government statisticians now agree that the expected fall will not occur within ten years. This ought at least to halt further cuts and from your report readers are likely to infer that it has

done so. We seek the opportunity of correcting that impression.

At best, it will postpone those further cuts which were justified by reference to a fall. It does not remove the threat of annual cuts, possibly substantial, which we have been told to expect in a circular letter from the Chairman of the University Grants Committee, simply to make financial savings in the public sector.

It does not make provision either for the view of the Royal Statistical Society. Their working party estimates that there is likely to be an actual rise in the demand for higher education throughout the remainder of the century. This is on top of the rise that has already occurred. The universities have been asked how they would respond to a fall. It would be more appropriate to ask: how will the Government respond to these rises? For a start, it should openly renounce annual cuts.

Yours,  
MYLES BURNYEAT,  
(Robinson College, Cambridge).  
MICHAEL DUMMETT,  
(New College, Oxford).  
RICHARD SORABJI,  
King's College London,  
Strand, WC2.  
July 2.

### Liverpool's finances

From Sir Trevor Jones

Sir, Local government finance is complex and in order to properly understand the state of Liverpool's finances it is essential that all facts are available. Since these facts are only now apparently emerging it is understandable that the militants, by keeping everyone in the dark, were able to mislead everyone, including Mr Kinnock, into believing that Liverpool faced bankruptcy.

The militants work to a simple strategy, first you create the problem and then campaign about it. On the financial facts emerging all their previous contentions have been destroyed.

The council's books have been balanced by utilising some £20m left to them by the prudent management of the previous Liberal administration. The scale of these funds was concealed from everyone and even publicly denied by their local leader.

The assistance given by Mr Patrick Jenkin was similar to what was allowed under urban programme on many previous occasions with the sole exception of the continued

subsidy on demolished council dwellings; this one item contributes £1m this year. This also will apply to all local authorities. What is ironic is the fact that with sensible and efficient management of the council's services a single figure rate increase was achievable without any redundancies or cuts in services.

Instead we have had a great and expensive campaign of deception and even now when most of the facts can no longer be concealed. The militants attempt to disguise their massive climb down by hailing it as a victory.

If Mr Kinnock wishes to help the militants from his party as he did in Blackburn, intelligent people here are not fooled by the militants' slogans repeated with mechanical regularity reminiscent of tactics which many thought were ended in 1945.

Yours sincerely,  
TREVOR JONES,  
Leader of the Opposition,  
Liverpool City Council,  
The Town Hall,  
Liverpool,  
July 13.

### Honouring Mr Mugabe

From Mr Michael Benskin

Sir, As a member of the academic staff of the University of Edinburgh, I wish to be publicly dissociated from its decision to confer, on July 20 the degree of *doctor honoris causa* on the present prime minister of Zimbabwe, Mr Robert Mugabe.

In assessing the value of his contribution to education in Zimbabwe, the sponsors have presumably not troubled to consult the people of Matabeleland. It is true that at the time the award was first proposed, the Ndebele people may have held no very strong views on the matter; times change, and their present plight simply cannot be ignored.

The honorary graduate's commitment to the ideal of a one-party state is of course nothing new, and his overturning of judicial process in the recent sabotage trial prompted no-one to observe that he was acting out of character.

It is a matter of the most profound personal disappointment that this university should so far have repudiated the democratic intellect as to endorse the architect of a regime under which its own existence could not be tolerated.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL BENSKIN,  
University of Edinburgh,  
Department of English Literature,  
David Hume Tower,  
George Square,  
Edinburgh,  
July 5.

### Sneezing ignorance

From Mrs Muriel Ryle

Sir, When I was a child and experienced that vexing, unproductive urge towards a sneeze that never came (always the peroxysmal A-A-A but never the climactic TISHOO), my mother would tell me to look at the light or towards the sun, and instantly I would sneeze several times violently and satisfactorily.

It was something she had learnt from her mother, a piece of knowledge one grew up with - one of those mysterious "old wives' remedies" which never fail.

How gratifying to find (*Science Report*, July 3) that perhaps for hundreds of years George folk lore has made us wiser than all those ignorant doctors.

Yours sincerely,  
MURIEL RYLE,  
22 Birchfield Gardens,  
Lowell,  
Gateshead,  
Tyne and Wear.  
July 4.

courts, a confused sentencing structure, and a probation service under pressure from conflicting demands. The new proposals will simply add to these problems.

All this evidence is that the new measure will have scarcely any effect on the size of the prison population. It may even add to it, if those who fail to turn up are punished for this by full custody.

One of my main fears is that it will devalue the importance of the existing severe non-custodial penalties. We already have more people in prison per head than almost any other Western European country. We also have the largest number of non-custodial sanctions.

We surely do not need another penalty to bridge the gap between community-based sanctions and full custody. We need more support for

### Cot deaths research

From Mr Charles de Selincourt and others

Sir, We wish to correct the impression (report, July 5) that the public have been misled in donating to cot death research by reassuring your readers that the funds raised by the *Daily Mirror* cot death appeal are to be channelled through the Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths at the suggestion of the paediatric department of Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

The foundation, a charity dependent on voluntary contributions, is currently sponsoring 16 research projects costing £1.5m into the causes and prevention of cot deaths. The appeal funds will enable our scientific committee to review and sponsor further research applications from Addenbrooke's Hospital and elsewhere.

Conclusions about the extent to which the research of the surfactant group at Cambridge will prevent infants from dying as premature babies or as cot deaths await completion of the studies.

Yours faithfully,  
CHARLES DE SELINCOURT,  
SYLVIA LIMERICK,  
JOHN DAVIS,  
The Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths,  
5th Floor,  
4 Grosvenor Place, SW1  
July 11.

### Pricking the bubbles

From Mrs F. G. Bolton

Sir, We now face a water shortage, yet all over the country millions of housewives are wasting millions of gallons of water trying to remove from their sinks the last of the ever-multiplying bubbles of detergent foam.

It used to be possible to buy, quite easily in supermarkets, low-lather liquid detergent, but this facility now seems only to apply to powders designed for use in washing machines.

If the public could be weaned from the idea of "the more bubbles the better", and manufacturers would once again produce low-foam products, that would surely result in worthwhile savings of water with no lowering of domestic standards and with the added bonus of easing the load on sewage plants.

Yours faithfully,  
JOYCE M. BOLTON,  
47 Mill Street,  
Kidlington,  
Oxfordshire.  
July 9.

those penalties already in existence, community service orders and attendance at a probation centre, which make heavy demands on offenders' leisure time but which also keep them in their community, where eventually they have to learn to live a law-abiding life.

One of the main reasons for giving people custodial sentences is that they are a danger to the community. This cannot apply to weekend imprisonment. However, what the latter will do is to diminish the force that custody has as the most severe sanction. However one looks at it, this measure seems to make little sense.

Yours faithfully,  
ALFRED DUBS,  
House of Commons.  
July 5.

## Fines on British car importers

From Mr Michael Welsh, MEP for Lancashire Central (European Democrat/Conservative)

Sir, Reporting of the European Commission's decision to fine British Leyland £208,000 for seeking to protect the high-priced British car market by charging importers £100 for type approval certificates reveals a certain amount of confusion, not to say double standards (report, July 5).

British public opinion has been in the forefront of those calling for the abolition of non-tariff barriers to trade which impede the free flow of goods and prevent the effective operation of a common market. The national type approval system is a classic example of a non-tariff barrier and has been used by manufacturers to restrict parallel imports of their cars from other member states, where they are available at considerably lower prices.

In May last year the Government concluded an informal agreement with the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders designed to prevent such abuses, the basic principle as stated in a parliamentary answer being: "The purchaser's choice of supply should not be impeded."

Logically, therefore, we should be rejoicing at the Commission's evident determination to enforce the rules of competition and maintain the free flow of goods, as we have consistently urged them to do, the ideal solution, a single Community-type approval based on a single set of standards, remains elusive, primarily because of fears that a free European market might be exploited by Japanese and other third country manufacturers.

The larger issue of the effective partitioning of the UK market through an exclusive distribution system is much more difficult. Exclusive distribution means that manufacturers can confine sales of their products to a limited number of authorised dealers and this enables UK distributors to maintain prices up to 30 per cent higher than those in continental Europe.

Not only do high prices discriminate against British consumers, but they provide substantial windfall profits for foreign manufacturers, who supply more than half the cars sold in Britain.

If we are to have a competitive motor car industry we must exploit the strengths of the 270 million consumer base which the Common Market provides and avoid making sudden demands for free trade in general, but special case treatment in the name of job preservation.

The consequence of such exemptions is inevitably to weaken our manufacturing base as a whole.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL WELSH,  
Waterbrook,  
181 Town Lane,  
Whittle-le-Woods,  
Chorley, Lancashire.

### Fire in York Minster

From Mr D. H. Craighead

Sir, If the fire in York Minster was indeed caused by lightning then it might not be inappropriate to comment on lightning protection and lightning conductors generally.

Lightning seeks the shortest route to earth through any suitable conducting material. Hence it stands to reason and, I understand, has indeed been confirmed by observation and experiment, that a lightning conductor will protect a cone underneath it in the shape of a cone with sides at 45 degrees from the top of the lightning conductor.

I do not know what lightning conductors were used on York Minster, but on this criterion the vast majority of lightning conductors one sees on houses and larger buildings offer very meagre protection indeed and are of negligible practical use.

Yours faithfully,  
D. H. CRAIGHEAD,  
77 Clifton Hill, NW8.

### Poor pickings

From Mr John Wrigley

Sir, There is a ready answer to the problems of Mrs Ruddle and Miss Jenkin (July 7) in getting used clothing to the needy. The Women's Royal Voluntary Service has established facilities for sorting, cleaning and distributing good quality used clothing to people identified by local authorities as in need or victims of local emergencies.

The address of the nearest WRVS office can be found in the telephone directory. Yours faithfully,  
JOHN WRIGLEY,  
Women's Royal Voluntary Service,  
Yeovil District Office,  
19 Union Street,  
Yeovil, Somerset.

### Short-lived faith?

From Mr Norman Walker

Sir, I wonder how long the British people's "faith in the ethic of labour", which you commend in today's leader (July 3), will last under a Government so apparently resigned to massive unemployment. Yours faithfully,  
NORMAN WALKER,  
High Croft,  
Mark Cross,  
Crowborough, East Sussex.

### A dog's life

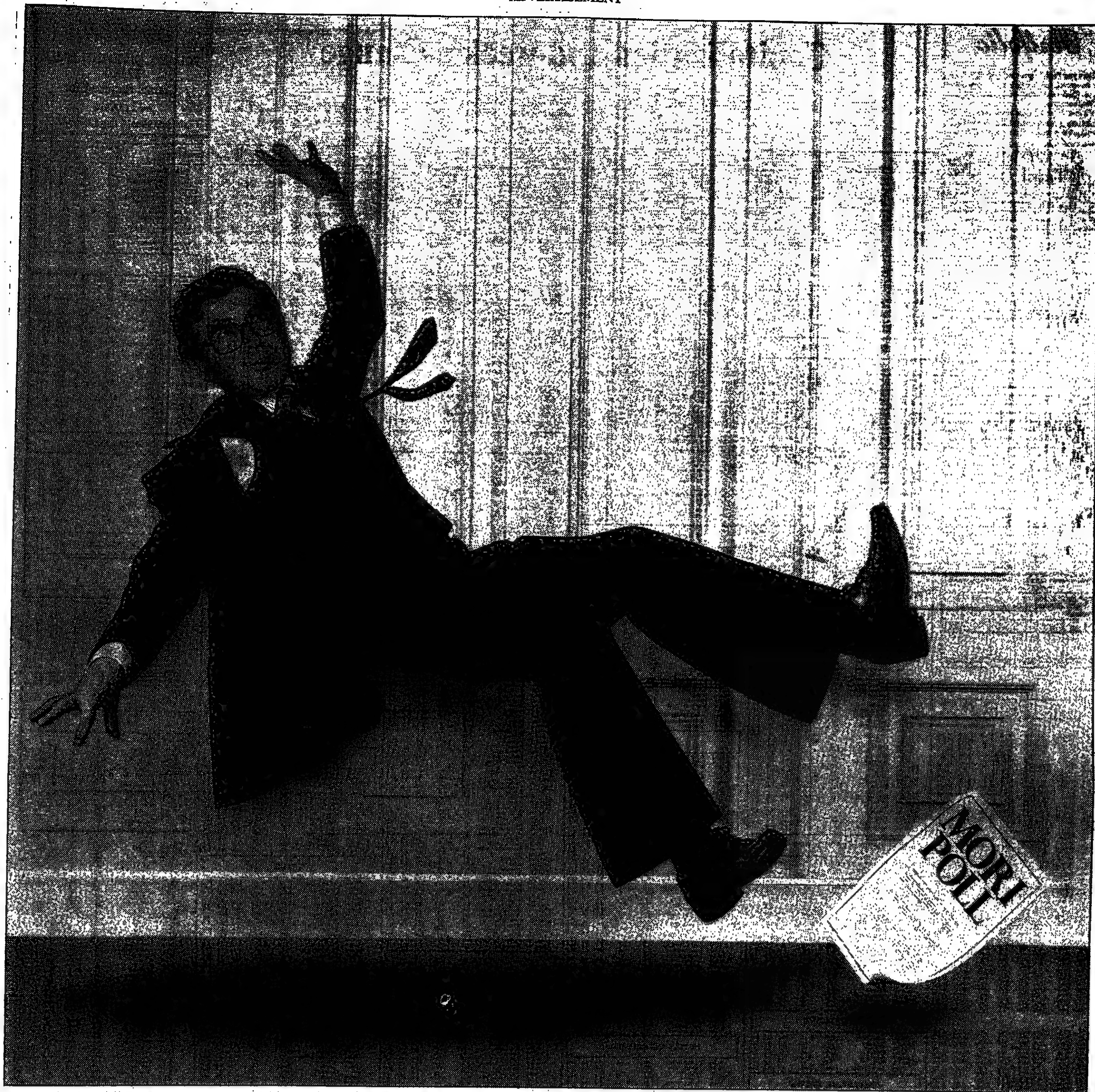
From Mrs Joan Langrognaat

Sir, The French have a far more pragmatic approach to the relative merits of doctors and vets. I have always heard them say that if a vet loses a cow for a farmer the farmer loses a lot of money, but if a doctor loses a grandfather for a family they stand to gain only an inheritance. Yours faithfully,  
JOAN LANGROGNAAT,  
6 Oxford Road,  
Harrow, Middlesex.









## ANOTHER POLITICAL BANANA SKIN?

This week, Patrick Jenkin, the Government's accident-prone Environment Secretary, will try yet again to get next year's metropolitan county council elections scrapped.

Having met with resounding opposition just eighteen days ago, when the House of Lords amended his abolition Paving Bill by voting to retain elections, Mr. Jenkin's Bill is back today, with their Lordships being offered a curious deal by a Government desperate to win them over, and even more desperate to avoid a huge defeat at the polls next May.

In exchange for peers' support to cancel elections, Mr. Jenkin is offering to extend the life of the threatened councils, until they are supposedly abolished by a parliamentary bill which doesn't yet exist.

But, denying legitimate elections to some eight million metropolitan county voters is precisely what their Lordships voted against, fearful of the serious constitutional implications.

And it's certainly not what those eight million voters want. A reflection of their dissatisfaction was seen only last week, in a MORI Poll conducted throughout the six metropolitan counties. A mere 16% of voters went along with the Government's proposals, whilst 60% said the elections should take place.

### NO, NO, NO, NO, YES.

Surely a 4:1 vote of no confidence cannot be ignored. Not least given the fact that Mrs. Thatcher was a signatory to the recent international Declaration of Democratic Values, which defends the rights of citizens everywhere to participate in "a system of democracy which ensures genuine choice in elections freely held."

But of course, saying one thing and doing another is nothing new to this Government.

In its manifesto, acknowledging the supremacy of parliament, the Conservative Party stresses the need for a "strong second chamber" which it says is "a vital safeguard for democracy." Yet, in its handling of the abolition issue, as with many others, the Government seems to regard the House of Lords as the home of the rubber stamp.

### A BAD BILL PAVING THE WAY FOR A WORSE BILL.

The Government's abolition proposals and its handling of the total issue have been acknowledged as a complete fiasco, even by many leading conservatives.

But, oblivious to all warnings, the Government insists on bulldozing its Paving Bill through, before the

main Abolition Bill has even been drafted. It is obsessed with achieving its arbitrary, and unexplained abolition deadline of April 1986.

Ignoring the fact that previous local government reorganisations have been achieved only after detailed consideration.

Issuing totally conflicting statements about the aims and benefits of abolition.

And denying the logical solution of a full and independent inquiry into the structure and financing of local government.

Yet such an inquiry is all that the metropolitan county councils have campaigned for.

A reasonable enough request to all but the Government, whose overt response has been to ignore our powerful and reasoned arguments, but who in reality want to silence us.

A desire stemming from the Government's inability to disprove our case, or produce any evidence to justify its own botched proposals.

Come what may the Government is determined to scrap the local elections it fears so much. Even though it outrages the electorate.

And even though it runs contrary to the will of the Lords.



# THE TIMES Portfolio

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6	Aynsley Metal	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
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8	Bepak	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
9	Beth & Portland	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
10	Dupont	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
11	INDUSTRIALS E-K	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
12	Enfield	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
13	Harold	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
14	Kalamazoo	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
15	Flintshire	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
16	Halm	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
17	Elliot (St)	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
18	Equinox Int	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
19	Haver	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
20	Carton Eng	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
21	INDUSTRIALS L-R	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
22	Forrest	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
23	Maple	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
24	Lee (Lith)	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
25	Mohs	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
26	Radford Glass	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
27	LCP	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
28	Marshall Univ	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
29	RHP	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
30	Reimann	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
31	INDUSTRIALS S-Z	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
32	Ston & Roberts	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
33	Stoncliff	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
34	Value	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
35	Solutions Law	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
36	Whitcomb	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
37	Wood (SW)	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
38	Wellman	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
39	Tellis	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
40	Waterford Glass	174.4m	+0.1	2.4

Your Daily Total

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £40,000 in Saturday's Newspaper.

BRITISH FUNDS

Stock market

Stock

SHORTS

LONGS

MEDIUMS

LONGS

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## THE TIMES Stock Exchange Prices Capitalization and week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began July 2; Dealings End, July 13; Contango Day, July 16; Settlement Day, July 23.

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Gross Div
174.7m	AAH	174.7m	+0.2	2.4
180.2m	Balfour	180.2m	+0.1	2.4
177.8m	Brownrigg Cat	177.8m	+0.1	2.4
174.4m	BBA	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
174.4m	Aero & Gen	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
174.4m	Aynsley Metal	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
174.4m	Coast	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
174.4m	Bepak	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
174.4m	Beth & Portland	174.4m	+0.1	2.4
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Comstar House	309	-3			
De Vries House	402	18	7.1	5.6	17.6
Merit	180	18	14.5	7.7	11.4
Landmark	187	7	10.1	8.0	13.7
Windsor	180	18	14.5	7.7	11.4
Plains of NY House	58	0	1.1	2.9	12.9
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## FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

# What will the pound do to our prices?

Sir Geoffrey Howe must be contemplating his parting present from the Treasury with some satisfaction. On moving next door to the Foreign Office, Mrs Thatcher's first Chancellor received a framed graph on the monetary aggregates - all coming neatly home to target in 1983.

A picture worth framing, because this was the only year in which the Thatcher Government hit all its monetary targets, which are now giving trouble to Mr Nigel Lawson. Of course, since the early days of embarrassing failure with a single target (remember 1980-81, when the target was 7-11 per cent and sterling M3 rose 19.4 per cent?) Chancellors have armoured themselves with a range of targets, thus increasing their chances of scoring some where but likewise making a perfect score more difficult. This is not an easy monetary policy either to pursue or to promulgate, and many of Mr Lawson's difficulties this past fortnight stem from the confusion.

Mr Lawson's public position has been that interest rates are a matter for the markets; but he does, after all, still have a set of money targets, and directly or indirectly interest rates are his most visible instrument for keeping each aggregate trained on the bull's eye. Can interest rates serve two masters? Only when the markets and Mr Lawson agree, and for the most month they have been rather painfully at odds.

Mr Lawson keeps telling us that the domestic monetary situation does not warrant today's high level of interest rates. His argument that monetary growth is bound to slow down this autumn is plausible, and probably correct. What's more, the narrowest money measure, M0, is still easily on target. But with the venerable sterling M3 rising at an annual rate of 14.7 per cent, and wider measures growing still faster, there were bound to be dissenting voices; and with the miners and dockers spreading international gloom, enough pessimists to pass the Chancellor's troubles to the most sensitive indicator of all - the exchange rate.

The position of sterling in the firmament monetary policy has changed critically. The Government has refrained from joining the European Monetary System, or intervening unilaterally to fix the rate. Officially, all that has happened is that the exchange rate has been upgraded to the status of a source of subsidiary financial information - an extra check on the monetary indicators. But since the Government's veil of indifference to sterling was torn off in 1980, its monetary policy has become slightly more like the German and less like the American - and thereby more suitable to a medium-sized, open European economy.

Only last week, the Government's Chief Economic Adviser - reviewing his formidable forecasting experience at the Treasury - pointed out to a symposium at the London Business School the key influence of the exchange rate on the decline in inflation in the early 1980s. Far more than expected, it was the high-sterling rate that forced manufacturers to hold down prices and contain costs, while the money numbers moved erratically and wages proved slow to adjust.

The dangerous corollary is that a falling exchange rate would have a similarly important impact on inflation. But here the evidence has been quite different. The Treasury's model rule of thumb is that a 10 per cent fall in the exchange rate adds about 2 per cent to prices about a year later, with more to follow. A sharp fall in the exchange rate produces an abysmal

effect, which is why the Chancellor had to shove the blocks under sterling last week (and would have done better to act earlier). If one applies the rule, far too crudely, by last week sterling had fallen enough to push the Treasury forecast for next spring up from 4 per cent to about 5½ per cent (with independent forecasters prophesying worse). Anything more would have rather plainly brought the Government's counter-inflation progress to a halt.

But neither Sir Geoffrey nor Mr Lawson have shown themselves averse to clawing back some competitiveness by a gentle sterling decline from the giddy days of 1980. The remarkable aspect of this decline is that it seems to have been achieved at no inflationary cost.

Since its peak in 1980, sterling has fallen more than 45 per cent against the dollar. Yet calculations by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) suggest Britain's import prices rose not at all, up to the end of 1983, relative to domestic prices - if anything they actually rose less.

There could, of course, be a nasty explanation for this higher inflation in Britain, no that there was no fall in the "real" exchange rate; but OECD calculations also suggest the real exchange rate between Britain and America fell 35 per cent over the same period. So other explanations are needed. One is that other currencies were falling against the dollar too, so Britain's trade-weighted exchange rate was moving much less. Even so, the International Monetary Fund's "real trade-weighted" exchange rate index suggests a decline of 19 per cent since the beginning of 1981 and the end of 1983.

But both these "real" indices quoted so far depend on movements in unit wage costs in different countries. This is a convenient measure of competitiveness, but it does not tell you what is happening to prices: manufacturers possessed of a depreciating currency may be jacking up their profit margins. (No bad thing, of course, if as in Britain these have been pared too thin - but it does mean higher prices.) A useful spot-check on this is provided by Morgan Guaranty, which calculates monthly indices of "real trade-weighted" exchange rates based on the wholesale prices of manufactures. And this still shows a fall of nearly 10 per cent by May this year, compared with the average for 1980-82.

Two explanations remain. One is that raw materials prices have been exceptionally weak during this economic recovery, rising slowly even in sterling terms. The other is that importers have clearly cut their profit margins (not to say dumped manufactured goods) over the past three years.

So what does that tell us about the future? The Chancellor's immediate inflation target - 4½ per cent by the end of the year - depends on whether interest rates come down by then, which they certainly should. Looking beyond that, commodity prices are still weak; and the world recovery is not strong enough for importers to risk jacking up their profit margins.

But there are limits to the extent to which they can go on paring them down in line with sterling. This is good news for British manufacturers - provided they can either continue to achieve big productivity gains, or get a better grip on wage costs. Further progress against inflation still depends fundamentally on domestic cost control.

Sarah Hogg  
Economics Editor

# Federal Reserve to rule on tighter credit controls

From Bailey Morris  
Washington

The powerful Open Market Committee of the American Federal Reserve Board meets in closed session today and tomorrow to chart the course of interest rates over the coming critical months.

Governors of the Federal Reserve system, which effectively acts as a central bank, must decide whether to tighten credit conditions, given the still strong United States expansion, and if so, by how much, to avoid a rekindling of inflation.

The meeting takes place during a particularly difficult economic period when interest rates are rising. Third World debt concerns are strong, and economists are divided over the future course of United States economic growth.

A decision to tighten monetary controls would be signalled almost immediately after the two-day meeting by an announcement that the Federal Reserve was raising its discount rate on loans to financial institutions.

Moreover, Mr Paul Volcker,



Paul Volcker will indicate steps taken to Congress.

Chairman of the Board, will indicate what steps have been taken next week when he reports to Congress on monetary goals.

At 9 per cent, the discount rate is much lower than the 11 per cent Federal Fund rate which institutions charge each other on their borrowings.

Traditionally, when there is such a large gap between the bank's discount rate and the Federal Fund's rate, the Board moves to close it by raising the

discount rate. But analysts said the decision would be more difficult this time because of differences among committee members over the correct course of short-term monetary policy.

Financial markets would probably regard an increase in the discount rate as a signal that the Federal Reserve Board wanted a tighter policy and thus a higher level of interest rates.

The United States prime lending rate the banks charge their best borrowers has been moving steadily higher and now stands at 13 per cent. Most economists believe the rate, under pressure from government borrowing to finance the record Federal deficit, will move to 15 per cent and possibly above by year's end.

A decision to tighten policy, thus putting upward pressure on rates, could have a dramatic impact on Third World debtor countries.

The key question before the Open Market Committee is whether the US economy will be slowing as much as desired by the second half of the year. But given the uncertainties

and the presidential election, analysts do not expect tightening by the Board.

● In London, the City is bracing itself for a further period of uncertainty after the events of last week. Ian Griffiths writes. Brokers and jobbers were expecting a nervous start to the new account as the market watches developments on sterling and the industrial disputes.

Despite indications from charitists that we are moving into a bear market this has yet to be confirmed in practice.

The uncertainty over the financial markets in the next few days has led three leading clearing banks to delay decisions on what interest rates to charge on their home loan schemes.

Only Lloyds followed the example of the Building Societies Association which advised an increase in lending rates on Friday from 10.25 per cent to 12.5 per cent.

Lloyds hiked its mortgage rate up 2.25 percentage points to 13.25 per cent on Friday.

## Smuggled tin traded in Singapore

By Michael Prest

Philipp Brothers, one of the world's biggest commodity traders, is handling a large proportion of the tin-in-concentrate apparently smuggled to Singapore from neighbouring tin producing countries in contravention of the International Tin Agreement.

Trading in smuggled tin-in-concentrate is the semi-processed ore from which tin proper is smelted - it is not breaking the law. It is smugglers in Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand who are breaking international agreements. Southern Thailand where the central government authority is weak, is suspected to be the source of the current wave of smuggling ore.

Exporting countries under the ITA have agreed to hold 42,000 tons of annual production of tin in concentrate off the market so as to support the world tin price, \$9480 a ton last week. Consumption this year is expected to be around 160,000 tons, more than 18,000 tons more than output. Production capacity is more than 200,000 tons.

Smuggling tin over and above the amount a country may export, according to the ITA, has been an endemic problem for years. Singapore is a free port which has smelting capacity at Kintail Tin and is not an exporting member of the ITA.

The extent of smuggling is regarded as a great success by the International Tin Council which administers the ITA because it stretches the resources of the buffer stock manager who has to buy surplus tin. But the TUC is steadily eroding world stocks of 70,000 tons and bringing the supply more into line with demand.

## Rolls expects £200m order

The Saudi Arabian national airline is expected to announce soon a £200m order for the latest version of Rolls-Royce's RB211 jet engine.

## PCW names could miss deadline

By Alison Eadie

As many as 150 Lloyd's names on the former PCW syndicates could refuse to meet their July 21 solvency deadlines at Lloyd's, placing the insurance market in a severe predicament, according to the steering committee representing PCW names.

About 450 of the total 1,500 PCW names have a substantial solvency problem, but many would prefer suspension from underwriting by Lloyd's, to paying up their losses, when the scale of those losses is not fully ascertained.

The steering committee, which was set up to consider the £38.17m compensation offer made to PCW names by Minet and Alexander & Alexander Services, is considering taking legal action to try to prevent Lloyd's suspending those names who refuse to meet their solvency requirements.

Among those who will refuse are some of those with the largest deficits - up to £250,000. Lloyd's needs to pass its overall solvency test, imposed by the Department of Trade and Industry, by the end of the year, but to trade in the

## 20 offers for Royal Worcester

By Jonathan Clare

Crystallite Holdings has received about 20 serious offers, including some from the US, for Royal Worcester's highly-regarded fine china business.

It expects to draw up a short list of three or four potential buyers this week before a final decision is made. The bids are said to be worth around £20m to £25m.

One offer has come from Mrs Helen Boehm, who runs the Boehm Studios figurine company in the US and who initially approached Crystallite even before it won control of Royal Worcester last year.

Confidential details about Royal Worcester were sent out to about 40 possible buyers. The final decision is expected next month after the two-week summer holiday at Royal Worcester works. Some of the short-listed buyers will not see the factory until after the return to work. Mr Charles Howe, Crystallite's managing director, said: "People expect to see the factory working."

Crystallite expects to sell the whole of the fine china business and is unlikely to keep a stake itself.

# Commodities betray monetarist theory

## AMERICAN NOTEBOOK

The commodities markets are not performing as they are supposed to do in the monetarist model. While the Federal Reserve Board is holding down the level of short-term interest rates, commodity prices are falling.

The slope of the yield curve in the first three years of its range is now almost vertical. While 90-day T-Bills are yielding 10 per cent and June 1987 bonds are yielding 13.16 per cent, the 30-year US bonds are yielding 13.26 per cent.

The rapid escalation of yields in the first three years is taken as an indication that the Federal Reserve is holding down short-term rates and will continue to do so until the election is out of the way. Lately money M1 has risen at about 14 per cent a year.

a rate of increase that is well above the Fed's own targets.

Unfortunately for the monetarist economists who have been propounding the view that the Fed is providing greatly excessive reserves growth for the banking system, the commodities markets do not appear to be listening.

Commodities have slumped badly in the last two months. The Commodity Research Bureau index of commodity futures has fallen from a three-year high of 284 in the last week

of May to a two-year low of 260.

And since the week of May 11, bond futures have also been seeking a bottom. The September 1984 T-Bond contract was 60 in the week of May 11. It was just under 62 early last week, more than eight weeks after the May 11 bottom was touched.

Far from running scared, the bond futures have been showing a good deal of resolve, seeking to find and maintain a bottom after the long downward slide that began in mid-January.

when the September contract stood at just over 70.

Other financial futures have also been showing signs of stability. The September 1984 Eurodollar futures contract fell from 89.3 in February to a low of 86.3 in the week of June 10. This contract was over 87 last week.

The September 1984 domestic certificates of deposit contract was 89.7 in early February. It fell to a low of 86.3 in the last week of May. This contract was nearly 88 last week.

Maxwell Newton

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Job sharing 'is rubbish'

Unemployment in Britain would not remain permanently high and the long-term outlook could be quite bright if the Government helped rather than hindered fluidity in the labour market, according to Professor Patrick Minford from Liverpool University.

Writing in the Institute of Economic Affairs' quarterly magazine he says the view that Britain now has a permanent pool of unemployed and must adjust by job sharing, early retirement and creative leisure planning is "rubbish".

He argues that governments must design their taxes, benefits and union laws to further rather than hinder adjustment in the labour market needed to bring down unemployment.

● THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION has approved a sales cooperation agreement between Carlsberg, the Danish brewers, and Watney Mann & Truman, Metropolitan. The Commission said that although the accord involved two major brewers, it should not be blocked on anti-competitive grounds because it allowed a non-British brewer, to gain a foothold in the British market.

● FIELDING NEWSON-SMITH is the latest firm of stockbrokers to admit to talks on a link-up with another financial institution. Mr James Dundas Hamilton, the senior partner, confirmed yesterday that Fieldings had been talking to several parties. No partner has yet been identified.

● JAPAN has agreed to provide Indonesia with a soft loan of 71,600m yen to help its economic development.

## ORDINARY SHARES

# Brewers rise in an ailing market

Doom and gloom may abound, but for the brewing sector 1984 has so far been a good year.

Let us look at the facts. First, the sector has risen by 17 per cent against a market which has shown very little net change.

Secondly, good results and satisfactory dividend increases have been the norm rather than the exception, with some quite sparkling achievements. These include Bass, where profits were up by no less than 35 per cent, followed by Scottish & Newcastle, running a close second with profits up by 34 per cent.

Thirdly, beer production is up by 5.3 per cent - an even more remarkable increase given the labour disputes which have occurred at one or two breweries.

Fourthly, spirit consumption is showing some short-term recovery at least, and wine sales seem to be coming ever more buoyant as each day passes. Finally, hotel occupancy levels continue to rise and catering expenditure grows well.

As the season of school reports approaches, the headmaster can report that the brewing sector (in terms of its share price performance) is fourth this year out of a class of 33; good progress has been seen; and the sector could be capable of doing still better if it works at it.

So far so good, but the perverse attitude of the stock market never ceases to amaze some people. For example, this year has seen three important bids made by brewers. Two succeeded, one did not.

First, Scottish & Newcastle attempted to acquire Cameron. Immediately, regardless of whether it was right or wrong,

this was perceived by the market as a good move and the fact that the bid did not proceed was regarded as disappointing.

Then, Guinness successfully bid for Martin the Newsgroup, but the share price of Guinness suffered fairly heavily as a result. Finally there was the Greenall Whitley bid for De Vere Hotels, which might well qualify as the curate's egg of take-overs this year in the sector, and the share price fell initially by 13 per cent.

In terms of the sector's share price performance, schizophrenia still flourishes. Over the

past twelve months the average share price fall of the six largest regional brewers has been 21.1 per cent. In marked contrast, the majors are up by an average amount of 29 per cent.

Despite the pronounced advance in the performance of the two groups, both fashion and perhaps some (but not all) of the facts of life tend to label the regional brewers as a group to be avoided. These shares, it is argued, should be sold whereas the major brewers should be bought.

Such a view is an over-simplification and, like all over-simplifications, is unlikely to be true. Nevertheless, the force of sentiment is such that it could be unwise to ignore it.

The regional brewers are perceived as having many "problems" - premium ratings, no "leisure" involvement, inadequate interests in lager, limited wines and spirits business, allegedly poor trading areas and so on. This may be true of some but in general it does not stand

up to analysis. Furthermore, it ignores the benefits they still possess, not least in terms of reasonably well-contained distribution costs.

Vaux, with its sizeable hotel interests, has been achieving satisfactory results but seems to remain unduly tarnished because of its "heavy North East involvement".

Such a tag might have been appropriate in the past but there are many other areas in the UK where unemployment is in fact worse than the North East. In any case, Vaux has been

conspicuously successful in broadening both its geographical base and its base of activities. The shares, valued at around 11 times earnings and yielding 6 per cent, appear to be reasonably priced amongst the regional brewers.

Greenall Whitley, at present in the process of spending £44.5m to acquire De Vere Hotels, has suffered because of the likely short-term dilution of earnings that might result. In addition, it has been affected by its increased exposure to interest rate sensitive borrowings.

Nevertheless, the PE multiple of 9.5 times earnings seems unduly low.

Recognising the extent of their good price performance, until now, the major brewers still seem likely to continue to make the running in the sector. Trading, by and large, remains quite buoyant and profit expectations perfectly adequate.

Whitbread's shares appeared extremely lowly rated earlier this year and, although some

Colin Mitchell

# Increased Sales New Acquisitions

Our 1984 Annual Report, just published, highlights the success of our sales effort in increasing turnover to £61.7 million during a time of intense competition and lower selling prices for pipeline products. This progress has continued and sales in the current year show a further healthy improvement.

Towards the end of the year we acquired two valve and pipeline equipment distributors, G.B. Parkes and Brooks & Walker. Their combined sales in 1983 totalled nearly £20 million and we believe that our prospects will be greatly enhanced by the contributions from these acquisitions.

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## THE GILT-EDGED MARKET

## Mapping a route through the short-term risks

It always helps to know where one is going when planning a route. In the present holiday period this is very rarely a problem. Most holiday-makers know their destinations and plan their routes accordingly.

In financial markets, however, the ultimate destination is rarely known with certainty. If it were, market prices would have already adjusted to a level which incorporates that certainty.

In any form of investment, therefore, it is necessary to balance the returns offered at present prices against the risk of uncertain events. Given the present state of the gilt-edged market, it is of extreme importance to assess the risks.

Gilt-edged prices have fallen almost continuously since the Budget in March. Does this indicate that we are now in a bear market and cannot expect prices to recover until further falls have occurred? Or is it reasonable to expect prices to recover to the pre-Budget level within the next 12 months?

What is definitely true is that the returns are very high. As can be seen on the accompanying chart, the level of yields on long dated gilt-edged stock is more than 6 per cent higher than the present inflation rate.

The last time that this occurred was in the great depression when inflation was actually negative. The gap between bank base rates and inflation is also very high - the highest it has been since the great depression.

With inflation expected to remain in the 5-7 per cent range

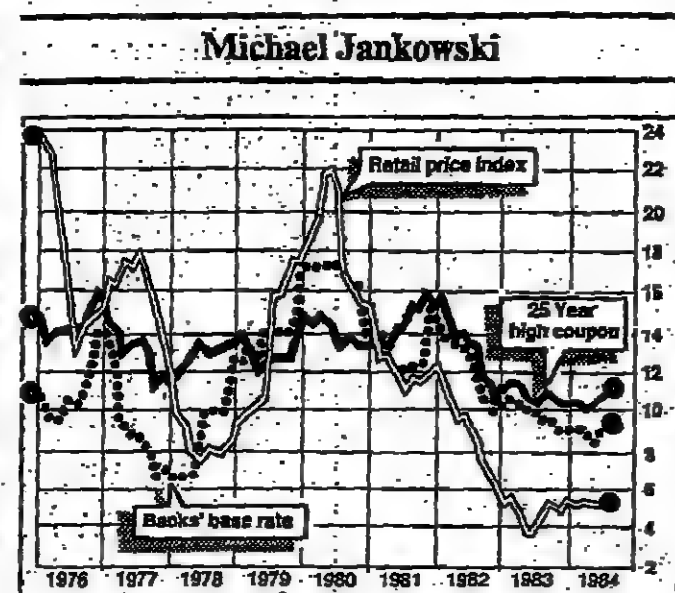
over the next few years, real short-term rates of interest will remain very high if no downward movement occurs. Such rates of return are clearly attractive by historical standards but whether investors will wait for them to become more attractive depends on their perceptions of the risks.

The risk to the market is chiefly a short term one. The recovery in sterling following the rise in interest rates has been weaker than would have been expected. With the US Fed's open market committee meeting today and tomorrow, all will be watching to see if any tightening occurs.

If US rates rise further and/or UK labour disputes worsen, sterling could test levels below \$1.30. This would place further pressure on domestic short-term interest rates.

Although it is difficult to determine where domestic interest rates would need to go, if UK rates were brought to a level where they stood at a premium to those presently in the US, the higher rate offered on UK deposits would compensate for the negative factors (chiefly labour disputes) affecting sterling. The currency would probably stabilize. A rate of 14 per cent could be expected to do the trick, even if US interest rates rise further.

Referring back to the chart, one can see that when base rates were 14 per cent, long-dated yields were of a similar magnitude. What must be remembered, however, is that during those periods, retail price inflation was above 10 per cent and not considered to have a



significant chance of moving below that figure.

With inflation now 5 per cent and expected to stay below 7 per cent, yields on long-dated stock are unlikely to rise by such a significant amount and I would see the limit being 12 per cent (for the FTA 25-year high coupon index).

Longer term fears of a collapse of the US bond market with yields reaching 14-14.5 per cent by 1985 seem to be little in the minds of US bond investors at present.

The bond market has rallied six points from its low six weeks ago. No doubt these fears will emerge again when the market is less optimistic. On inter-

national relativities, 25-year UK gilt edged yields would need to rise to about 12 per cent (as a 250 basis point gap can be justified between the two markets) if US bond yields rise to 14.5 per cent.

On the other hand, these risks for some investors to be out of the market should yields fall.

Given the high real yields on offer, a favourable performance of sterling on the exchanges (it and when domestic labour disputes are resolved) could improve the gilt-edged market considerably. Already we have seen a substantial improvement in the market after the rise in base rates to 12 per cent.

Interest rates in the money market seem to expect the next move in short-term interest rates to be down. Any signs of sterling strength on the foreign exchanges would enhance this expectation.

Looking at the risks involved, it would appear best to wait until the latter part of this week before making any moves in the market.

If sterling gets through unscathed, the market should be expected to improve and, on balance, I would look to a healthier market over the next month.

Technically, the market will also be subject to some favourable influences. Liquidity is high and, given that many tax institutions will choose to establish tax losses (to be offset against gains elsewhere), this liquidity will go in the market after the tax-point is established along with the reinvestment of the sales proceeds.

Looking further into the future, the rise in interest rates will lead to a slowing of bank lending with a consequent reduction in the gilt-edged funding programme.

As credit demand slows, savings will also rise and the balance between the two will push for lower interest rates. On domestic grounds, therefore, pressures will force lower interest rates across the maturity spectrum.

The best maturity area on such a recovery in the market would clearly be in the longer dates. This is the area which has been outperforming in the recent recovery and is expected to continue to do so.

Looking at stocks with lives greater than 10 years, the 1996-1999 area of the market remains the most attractive. Stocks longer than this are very dear by comparison.

The 1993-1994 dates are also relatively dear when compared to the 15-year area and switching longer should be contemplated.

The short dates up to five years will respond very adversely to further sterling weakness and any investment in this area should wait until a clearer picture emerges on the currency front. For high rate taxpayers, the two shorter-dated index-linked securities are most attractive.

Additionally, given the above-mentioned likelihood of taxed funds notching losses and reinvesting the proceeds (plus accumulated cash) in the market, medium coupon stocks will be in for a boost.

These underperformed prior to the Budget and have not reversed that position since. Particularly interesting stocks in this area are West India 1997, Exchequer 10 1/2 per cent 1997, Exchequer 9 1/2 per cent 1998 and Conversion 10 1/2 per cent 1999.

I have confidence that the ultimate destination will be a move to lower yields and higher prices. The balance of risk and return however, argue for some caution in the short term. Overall, I would be a buyer of the market.

The author is gilt-edged specialist at stockbrokers Simon & Coates.

## COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

● RTD GROUP: Year to Feb 29. No dividend (same). Turnover £3,955m (£3.65m). Operating profit £3,000m (£2,800m). R T D's subsidiary, B M C Engineering (Swindon) has conditionally agreed to sell all its business and assets to Redman Engineering for about £233,000 to be adjusted in respect of shareholdings. R T D's board believes that the sale will be extremely beneficial as it will result in a cash payment to RTD for a business that has to date cost large sums of money.

● ALBERT MARTIN HOLDINGS: Agreement has been reached for Martin to acquire from Mr S. C. Y. Ling 7,500 out of his holding of 10,000 shares in Martin Emprex (Far East), a subsidiary of Martin Emprex. The acquisition will increase Martin's holding in Martin Emprex from 80

to 93 per cent of the subsidiary and continue as its managing director. The consideration for the 15 per cent interest will be £222,000. Martin Emprex manufactures leather and children's wear in Hongkong, Macau and Sri Lanka.

● VICTORIA CARPET HOLDINGS: Year to March 31. Turnover £22.9m (£17.45m). Pre-tax profit £287,000 (£238,000). Dividend 0.75p (0.5p). The group's Australian company made a good recovery from the depressed results of 1982-83, the board reports. The British company also increased turnover and profit, but difficult conditions, particularly in the last quarter, restricted margins. Since the year-end, the Australian company has continued to progress, but the British market remains difficult.

● FORMDESIGN (USM group): The acquisition will increase Martin's holding in Martin Emprex from 80

since April 1, there had been a further improvement in the company's position but it is too early to give any indication of profits for the present year. The order position is clearly good, but competition remains keen and it is difficult always to maintain margins. The new high-speed press has been installed and is fully operational on three shifts. The number of orders in the first quarter is 20 per cent up on the same period last year.

● HELLICAL BAR: Year to Jan 28. Turnover £6.52m (£7.36m). Pre-tax profit £260,000 (£272,000). No dividend (same). The board reports that an improvement in orders prices will enable the results for the half-year to July 1984, to show an overall surplus.

● ROTAPRINT: Year to March 31. Sales £15.65m (£14.6m). Pre-tax profit £232,000 (£401,000). No dividend (same). The board reports that an improvement in orders prices will enable the results for the half-year to July 1984, to show an overall surplus.

## EUROBONDS

STRAIGHT BOND	Price	Yield
10% 1984-1985	98.78	13.86
10% 1985-1986	98.78	13.86
10% 1986-1987	102.00	11.34
10% 1987-1988	98.12	14.46
10% 1988-1989	98.12	14.46
10% 1989-1990	100.92	12.46
10% 1990-1991	100.92	12.46
10% 1991-1992	103.39	11.32
10% 1992-1993	103.39	11.32
10% 1993-1994	103.00	14.11
10% 1994-1995	103.00	14.11
10% 1995-1996	99.13	16.87
10% 1996-1997	99.13	16.87
10% 1997-1998	103.00	12.46
10% 1998-1999	103.00	12.46
10% 1999-2000	99.63	16.87
10% 2000-2001	99.63	16.87
10% 2001-2002	95.81	19.31
10% 2002-2003	91.78	21.04
10% 2003-2004	91.78	21.04
10% 2004-2005	108.04	11.46
10% 2005-2006	92.68	14.79
10% 2006-2007	87.66	14.77
10% 2007-2008	87.66	14.77
10% 2008-2009	89.23	14.77
10% 2009-2010	91.03	14.00
10% 2010-2011	91.03	14.00
10% 2011-2012	87.78	16.17
10% 2012-2013	87.78	16.17
10% 2013-2014	93.61	13.63
10% 2014-2015	93.61	13.63
10% 2015-2016	90.38	16.06
10% 2016-2017	90.38	16.06
10% 2017-2018	92.00	14.39
10% 2018-2019	92.00	14.39
10% 2019-2020	91.00	13.83
10% 2020-2021	96.53	12.47
10% 2021-2022	96.53	12.47
10% 2022-2023	95.00	13.69
10% 2023-2024	95.00	13.69









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## HORIZONS

The Times guide to career choice

## Study your university plans now

Are you hoping to enter university in October 1985? You should be thinking about your application. Applications are handled by the Universities Central Council on Admissions, which accepts them between September 1 and December 15 in the year before to enter. Candidates complete a UCCA form on which they may name not more than five universities and return it to the UCCA office for processing and distribution to the universities.

University selectors then scrutinize the forms and "make offers" to applicants, specifying A-level examination grades to be obtained the next June. Candidates must, if fortunate enough to receive several offers, decide between them, and need not choose the one originally highest on their list. Indeed, they frequently change their minds after a visit or interview.

December 15 is the official closing date, but the last few years have seen a trend towards earlier application and last year the universities reported a 6 per cent increase in the number of forms received before November 30. Many selectors do not wait until the closing date, but make offers or rejections as the forms are received, so it can be advantageous to get them in early. If you wait until December, you run the risk of finding few places left, or you could find that the offers go up. One departmental selector said last year for instance, that whereas he had been asking for BCD in November, as his places filled he increased his asking rate to a less generous BCC. Moreover, several selectors say that are accustomed to seeing the forms of the better motivated candidates come in early and therefore tend to offer more places earlier in the season.

## Make a list of all you need to know

Some schools, particularly those with a large number of UCCA references to write, expect candidates to hand in their forms soon after the beginning of the autumn term and this means that you really cannot afford to wait until September to start thinking about your application. There are 92 university establishments listed in the UCCA handbook - counting the London and Welsh colleges separately - and you may choose only five. The remainder of this term and the summer holidays are the time for research and decision.

Where do you begin? How do you decide where to spend the next three or four years of your life? A lot of

## Beryl Dixon tells how would-be students should go about applying for places and why there is a trend towards early approaches

chance comes into it. Some like the sound of the course itself, some choose an attractive place; others go by school or parental recommendation; and it is not uncommon to select a place for personal or social reasons. Luckily, most people are happy in the places to which they eventually go. However, you might as well start the selection process scientifically.

First, make a list of all the things you need to know. Everyone is different and your priorities will not be the same as your friend's. What sort of place would suit you? Do you want to go to a city, a rural setting or a campus university? How important is it to live in university owned accommodation? Or would you prefer digs? There is an important consideration to bear in mind.

Until this year local authorities refunded amounts in excess of £50 spent each year on travel. This is no longer the case, and in future, costs of travel from home to university and daily travel to and from lodgings must come from your grant. Students, hopefully, will not be deterred from applying to the places of their choice, but it is worth thinking about.

Perhaps the most important single decision is that of the course. You should be applying only if you want to spend the next few years in serious study. You may already have chosen your subject, but you should at least consider new ones. There are many listed in the UCCA handbook which are not taught in schools. Even if you are choosing to continue a subject from A level, do check that the course is what you expect, and do not fall into the trap of assuming that they are identical at different universities.

There is a vast difference in the syllabuses of familiar sounding subjects: modern languages, for example, may be studied from a business and linguistic angle or may be biased towards the study of literature. Even straightforward sounding subjects can catch you out; agriculture, far from being a course in farm management is virtually an applied chemistry degree at some universities.

It is essential to give time and thought to these matters. Apart from special personal reasons, students drop out because they are unhappy

with their environment or because the course is not what they expected. Try to absorb first the vast amount of information available in books. UCCA handbooks are arriving in schools and you may already have been given one. I would suggest, however, starting to narrow down your choice with the Compendium of University Entrance Requirements.

When you have made a list of possibilities, turn to the CRAC degree course guides, which should be in school libraries.

There are guides to most subjects which compare and contrast the ways in which they are taught at different places. They tell how much accountancy is included in different business studies courses or how large a Roman law features in law courses, as well as giving valuable information on teaching and assessment methods at each establishment. Then you need to get prospectuses and course leaflets from a number of institutions. They may not answer all your questions - and do remember that they have a public relations function - but read in conjunction with the alternative prospectuses available from some students' unions they will give you a good picture of courses, accommodation and social facilities. Several universities now produce useful video "prospects", but these are usually available to schools rather than to individuals.

## A visit on campus is a good idea

There is no substitute for a visit to a university, but it is obviously unrealistic to suggest that you spend your entire summer holiday hitchhiking around different campuses. If you can arrange to see some, however, so much the better. You may be able to attend an official open day. If not, why not just go? You can absorb a fair amount by wandering around, and nobody is likely to object.

Lastly, ask if you have unanswered questions, write to university admissions officers. Most of them are happy to answer letters from prospective applicants, provided that the information has not already been given in the prospectus. Ask school staff for their opinions: ask to be put into touch with former pupils who are now at university. Above all, do ask your staff for an honest assessment of your A-level potential. Some courses demand higher entry grades than others and it would be foolish to waste one of those precious five choices with an unrealistic application.

You may not be able to do all of this during the summer, but if you can, you stand a better chance of making an informed choice next term.

## KING'S COLLEGE LONDON (KQC)

(University of London)

## LECTURESHIPS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ANATOMY &amp; HUMAN BIOLOGY

Applications are invited for Lectureships in the Department of Anatomy and Human Biology, King's College, University of London (KQC).

It is hoped that successful applicants will take up duties on 1st October 1984 or as soon as possible thereafter. Applicants with active research interests in the following areas are particularly sought: Cell Biology/Histology/Histopathology; Neuroscience; Teeth and Calcified Tissues.

In the first group, a joint appointment with the Department of Histopathology may be available. Applicants with interests in other fields will also be seriously considered, including clinically qualified persons preferably with an active research programme and interested in teaching Topographical Anatomy. Salary will be in the range £7,190-£14,125, plus £1,186 London Allowance, according to age and experience.

For further details contact Professor K. E. Webster, Anatomy Department, King's College, Strand, London, WC2R 2LS (tel 01-836 5454 ext 2484).

Application forms are available from

Mr S. P. Harrow, Assistant Registrar, King's College, London, Strand, London, WC2R 2LS (Tel 01-836 5454 ext 2489)

and should be returned with any additional information, in duplicate, to arrive no later than 6 August 1984.

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SERC CASE AWARD

Applications are invited for SERC CASE award involving the study of metal compounds as novel chemotherapeutic agents. The post attracts supplementary payment and the possibility of visits to United States. Applicants should possess a 1st or upper 2nd class honours degree in Chemistry, Biochemistry or related subjects and should telephone Dr P. J. Selley (tel. 01-836 2822 x 222 or 328) as soon as possible.

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## UNIVERSITY OF EAST ANGLIA

Norwich

## WOLFSON CHAIR OF ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT

Applications are invited for a Chair of Environmental Risk Assessment in the School of Environmental Science. This is a five year appointment, in the first instance, funded by the Wolfson Foundation. The professor will be expected to coordinate, oversee and disseminate knowledge about environmental risk assessment to the academic community, to the public and to industry. The professor will be able to draw on the expertise of the School and the Wolfson Foundation Research Unit which have wide interests in the physical, chemical, biological and socio-economic aspects of the environment. A full time research assistant and secretarial assistance will be provided. It is hoped that successful applicants will be in post by Easter 1985.

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